

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1878.

No. 342, New Series.

THE EDITOR cannot undertake to return, or to correspond with the writers of, rejected manuscript.

It is particularly requested that all business letters regarding the supply of the paper, &c., may be addressed to the PUBLISHER, and not to the EDITOR.

LITERATURE.

A *Bibliographical Description of the Editions of the New Testament, Tyndale's Version, in English, with numerous Readings, Comparisons of Texts, and Historical Notices.* The Notes in full from the Edition of Nov. 1534. An Account of two Octavo Editions of the New Testament of the Bishops' Version without Numbers to the Verses. Illustrated with Seventy-Three Plates, Titles, Colophons, Pages, Capitals. By Francis Fry, F.S.A. (London: Henry Sotherton & Co.; Bristol: Olive Lasbury.)

(First Notice.)

A PROSPECTUS of this beautiful and important work has been issued by its author consisting of eight pages, in which we are informed that only two hundred and fifty copies have been printed, and that the price is three guineas. It contains also a specimen of the title and one of the plates, probably selected because it represents a greater variety of letterpress vignettes and initial letters than is to be found in most of the other plates, and a concise account, running over five pages, of what may be found in the volume. As we suppose that there is a large supply of these for the information of such as will make some effort to obtain them, we will abstain from repeating what is there said. Indeed, we must confine our criticism to a very small portion of the book, which contains pretty nearly all that can be said of the forty distinct editions of Tyndale's Testament which were printed in about as many years between 1525 and 1566, the greater part of them in England, a small number only having been issued from Continental presses.

The first few pages of the book are occupied with a description of the forty editions which are known. Between the first edition, printed at Worms, and the second, at Antwerp in 1534, it has been thought that there were seven editions, every copy of which has perished. Mr. Fry is himself of opinion that there is good evidence to prove the existence of five. However, what is certain is that there are four different complete editions which have survived to the present time that must have been published during the lifetime of William Tyndale. Mr. Fry does not include in the number forty the imperfect edition in a quarto size which was begun at Cologne in 1525, and which is undoubtedly Tyndale's first attempt; but at the end of his account of the forty he has given a few lines of notice to it, by way of introducing his readers to

Plate 70, which represents in facsimile the first page of the text of the Gospel of St. Matthew, so as to give an idea of the size and appearance of the book. It is remarkable that this edition has marginal notes in abundance, whereas the complete first edition published at Worms has nothing but the bare text, with an epilogue to the reader, consisting of three pages. This epilogue is interesting, as giving Tyndale's estimate of the law and the gospel respectively, though of course it has nothing to do with bibliography. But there is a passage in it which, as it has an indirect bearing upon the subject, we will quote. Towards the end Tyndale, in apologising for the incompleteness of his work, promises what he does not appear exactly to have performed in subsequent editions. After promising to correct errors, he says he means to add "a table to expound the words which are not commonly used, and show how the Scripture useth many words which are otherwise understood of the common people, and to help with a declaration where one tongue taketh not another." It is singular that he does not promise to add tables of the passages used for the Epistle and Gospel, and this seems to make it probable that he adopted this improvement in his edition of November 1534 from the pirated edition published under Joye's superintendence in August of that year. It must not, however, be forgotten that these tables may have been in any of the lost editions.

We may add that there is a great contrast between the subdued tone of this epilogue and the pronounced Lutheranism on the subject of faith and works, distinctly developing into Calvinism as regards the topic of election, of the copy previously printed at Cologne. There is no evidence to show that this Cologne edition was ever completed, and we incline to the belief that it never proceeded beyond sheet K. It is to the last of these editions, published in the lifetime of the translator, that Mr. Fry draws special attention, as being the one which must be considered to represent Tyndale's most matured care and thought. With the first edition printed at Worms by Peter Schoeffer, and the incomplete copy begun at Cologne about the same time, we need not concern ourselves further. Both of them have been produced in facsimile, the latter by Mr. Arber, the other by Mr. Fry, who has also prefixed a most elaborate account of it. The second may be dismissed with the remark that it is a pirated edition, Tyndale's translation having been in many cases altered by George Joye. The history of the petty squabble between Tyndale and Joye, certainly not very creditable to either of them, though some excuse may be made for Tyndale as the injured party, may be read elsewhere. It has nothing to do with bibliography; and Mr. Fry keeps most rigidly to his subject, professing only to deal with facts, and leaving others to form their conjectures. The third bears date November 1534, and the fourth and fifth both bear the same date, 1535, the fourth having lost its first title, and bearing this date on its second title, whence a question might arise as to which of the two is to be considered the finally-revised translation of Tyndale. This point is most satisfactorily settled by Mr. Fry, who has

taken the trouble to collate and tabulate all the varieties of reading in all these three editions, and in a fourth published in the folio Bible by John Rogers, under the feigned name of Thomas Matthew, in 1537. This portion of the work has been in print for several years, and was separately issued by Mr. Fry for private circulation in 1875. The importance of it may be judged from the fact that no two of the forty editions resemble one another throughout, though to whom the alterations in the editions from 1535 to 1552 are due is entirely unknown, the only clue to the matter being the statement of Richard Jugge, prefixed to the quarto of 1552, that according to the commandment of the king he had published it by the aid of godly learned men. However, it is certain that Mr. Fry has set for ever at rest the question as to which of the editions is entitled to be considered the last corrected edition by the original translator. In commenting recently on the two popular accounts of the edition of the English Bible by Dr. Moulton and Dr. Stoughton we alluded generally to the blunders made by both these gentlemen in their attempts to describe these three volumes issued in 1534 and 1535. Anyone who will refer to the present publication will be able to satisfy himself of the justice of our charge against them. A copy of the edition which Mr. Fry designates as 1535-34 G. H., from the monogram G_xH at the foot of its second title, which itself bears the date 1534 on this title, has recently been discovered by him with a first title dated 1535, bearing on this title "yet once agayne corrected by Willyam Tindale," and has thus verified Dr. Cotton's sagacious conjecture that this Testament really belongs to a later date than 1534. There can be little doubt that the first title and the preliminary leaves, in which there occurs for the first time the leaf containing "The office of all estates," were printed after the rest of the work and issued some time in 1535, and that the other edition—that commonly known by its date of 1535, without any name of place or printer—is a pirated edition, with which Tyndale himself had nothing to do.

Joye's edition, published at Antwerp, first—so far as we know—inserted the table to find the Epistles and Gospels, after the use of Sarum, and this may have induced Tyndale to insert them in his edition of 1534, published three months later, together with the passages selected from the Old Testament for the Epistles on certain days. The tone of the notes in this edition, so far as doctrine is touched upon, is distinctly Lutheran, and, though occasionally Calvinistic, is quite different from the very pronounced Calvinism of the notes of later editions published in the reign of Edward VI. The notes are, upon the whole, moderate in tone as compared with the polemical nature of those of the Cologne quarto of 1525, and of later editions of Tyndale's Testament published in the reign of Edward VI. Mr. Fry has reprinted nearly all of these marginal notes, omitting only such as he describes as being little more than contents. Nearly all of them have been exactly repeated in the subsequent edition of 1535, called G. H., while only a few of them appear in some of the later editions. It is to be regretted

that he did not reprint them all, it being sometimes difficult to draw the line between what is a mere marginal epitome and what may be fairly designated as commentary. Had he inserted the whole it would not have added more than two pages to the nine he has devoted to these notes. We should also have been glad if they had been produced with their original spelling, which would have enabled us more easily to compare them with those which appear in G. H., which seems to follow the spelling of 1534 very closely. After comparing the notes throughout these two editions, we notice that all those of the Emperour edition of 1534, with perhaps two exceptions, are reproduced in G. H., in almost every case *verbatim*, together with a few additional notes. The two exceptions, we think, have probably slipped out of the press by some accident, or they may have been intentionally dropped as being of no importance. One is a note on Col. ii., 18:—"There is none other mark than Christ, nor other name to be saved by." The other is a note to the word "ointment" in 1 John ii., 20:—"That is knowledge of truth and all the gifts of the Spirit." Both of these are omitted also in Matthew's edition. In Acts xii., 4, the note in 1534 "Quaternions of soldiers is four companies of soldiers" is shortened in G. H. to "Quaternion is four," and this is followed exactly in Matthew's. One of the notes in the edition of 1534 ends abruptly with the word *what*. The remainder of the sentence [*what* our duty is to do again for that kindness sake] is added in G. H. The few additions are exactly such as to betoken what the title-page of G. H. professes, when it speaks of itself as being "yet once again corrected by William Tyndale." The following is one of the additional marginal notes in G. H. It is worth notice as characteristic of Tyndale's doctrinal views. On Acts vi. he says:—"Laying on of hands is here but admitting to an office," an evident protest against the supposition of grace being conferred by the imposition of hands. It is remarkable that Matthew's Bible adopts this note and improves upon it, as follows:—"Putting on of hands here is no other thing than with an open sign to admit them to their offices, and declare openly their calling—even as hands were put on Paul and Barnabas when they were sent to preach."

It may be asked why, as we have stated above, Mr. Fry should have included in his Comparative Table the readings of the edition of Thomas Matthew of 1537. The reason is that this is the edition published by John Rogers, who was Tyndale's intimate friend, in the year following Tyndale's death; and, of course, it is of considerable weight in the argument designed to show that the G. H. edition contains Tyndale's last and matured thoughts as regards the text, if it can be proved that these two editions agree more than Matthew's version agrees with either of the others. This is the point which Mr. Fry has so successfully worked. The upshot of his most elaborate and accurate comparison is that Rogers altered Tyndale's version, differing from the previous editions in 169 places. If we deduct from this number the errors of the compositor, and some other insignificant

changes, it will appear that Rogers very rarely made an alteration from Tyndale's text. A few, however, of the alterations are evidently attempts to improve upon that text, as, for instance, in the place where he properly altered 5,000 into 4,000 against all the previous editions. This editor has also made his own selection of notes from G. H., and, we believe, has inserted only one note from the quarto edition of Cologne. And now which text he took for the basis of his copy is rendered quite plain by the large number of passages in which he agrees with G. H., whether alone or in conjunction with one or both of the editions of 1534 and 1535, as contrasted with the number in which he agrees with these, either singly or jointly. The result may be briefly stated thus: that Rogers agrees with one or other of the other two editions against G. H. in forty-four places, whereas he agrees with G. H. in 797 passages. Mr. Fry modestly claims Dr. Eadie and Mr. Stevens as converts to his view, but the proof he has himself given is irresistible. Nay, with his usual caution, he has rather understated the evidence, and his conclusion is strengthened by a further examination into the kinds of variations between the different editions, many of which are trifling alterations of the most casual kind. We have ourselves little doubt that Rogers printed the edition known as Matthew's from G. H. without ever referring to either of the other editions of 1534 and 1535. As regards these two they are entirely distinct in their readings, the latter of them being a pirated Flemish edition published, we believe, after G. H., and following it very closely—and that especially in points where the Flemish compositor was likely to err from ignorance of the meaning—and full of the grossest blunders. One instance will suffice. In Matt. xxvii., 66, the reading *made the* has been made nonsense of by altering into *watche*, the mistake originating in the resemblance of the *m* to *w* and *c* to *t*. The close following of G. H. by 1535 may be seen in Luke x., 33, where both editions omit the words "and when he saw him had compassion on him." If Mr. Fry had omitted from his table the numerous instances of misprints and what we have called casual errors, we should have arrived at this conclusion with considerably less trouble than the comparison has involved.

It seems, moreover, probable that 1535 took for its model G. H., with which it agrees 517 times in passages where there is any variation, and that G. H. was printed from Marten Emperour's edition of 1534, with corrections, the notes being for the most part exactly copied, mistakes and all, as in 1 Pet. 2, *oure calligne for our calling*. Both 1534 and G. H. have the places of the Epistles and Gospels marked with a cross at the beginning and a half-cross at the end, a method which was afterwards generally adopted.

This point, as to which is to be considered the last and best edition of Tyndale's version, is never lost sight of to the end of the volume. We do not intend to pursue it further, as we consider it completely settled. But there is so much matter of interest in Mr. Fry's description of the subsequent editions of the translation that we must reserve what we

have to say about the remainder of the volume to a second article. Meanwhile, we may say that the present notice has scarcely done justice to the indefatigable exertions which the author has bestowed on a subject which the world in general will probably speak of as being of small importance. In our next article we shall hope to show that these matters are of more importance than is commonly supposed. NICHOLAS POOCK.

ENGLISH MEN OF LETTERS.

Shelley. By John Addington Symonds. (Macmillan & Co.)

THIS, the fourth volume of Mr. Morley's "English Men of Letters," is not likely to be the least popular of a fascinating series. It sketches in a very lucid style, and with less of personal passion than has hitherto been brought to the task, the biography of the English poet dearer than all others to young and enthusiastic persons, the poet who preserved in his character and his adventures, no less than in his transcendent writings, that mystery and romance which civilisation usually denies to modern men of letters. The whirligig of Time has, indeed, strangely brought about the revenge of Shelley; half a century has sufficed to lift the writer whose death no newspaper thought it worth while to record, and whose name was only mentioned that it might be reviled, to the absolute zenith of fame. In 1828 he could be named only with an apology; in 1878 he sits firmly raised in popular no less than critical opinion on a level with the few greatest poets among whom there is no question of rank. Mr. Symonds has seldom done better work of its kind than is contained in this little volume; indeed, the opening pages, in which Shelley's parentage and boyhood are described, have the clearness and direct force, without ornament, which we call classical, and which we have not always discovered in Mr. Symonds's prose. I would not be understood to mean that all is not well done, but that these first two chapters are specially well done.

The incidents in the restless life of Shelley were very numerous, and to keep the thread of his manifold wanderings and strange relations clear of tanglement has, perhaps, never before been so successfully achieved. Mr. Symonds has laid most of the sources of history and legend under contribution; and the number of these is surprisingly large. So difficult is it, however, to attain anything like an exhaustive knowledge of the materials for Shelley's biography that one or two have plainly missed even this careful writer. That he is still doubtful which Harriet is intended by the asterisks prefixed to *Queen Mab* shows that Mr. Symonds has not profited by Mr. Rossetti's revised edition of Shelley's *Poetical Works*, and the doubt might even have been solved by a reference to the *Shelley Memorials*, where, as Mr. Rossetti was the first to point out, the poet, under date June 11, 1821, writes to Ollier of a "foolish dedication to my late wife, the publication of which would have annoyed me." Perhaps, too, Mr. Symonds regarded Middleton's *Life of Shelley*

as insignificant, but he should by no means have omitted from his list of authorities Mr. Kegan Paul's *Godwin* or the original 1833 edition of Captain Medwin's charming *Shelley Papers*. So much for biographical sources; I do not know whether critical studies were included in the scheme of Mr. Symonds's list, but in any case I should have been glad to see a reference to De Quincey's brilliant *Essay* and to Dr. Georg Brandes' monograph in his *Romanticism in England*—the latter, in my judgment, the most profound and original criticism on Shelley that has been published. While on this subject, I should like to ask whether any Shelley student can tell what has become of the little Indian-ink sketch of Shelley, in his university dress, which De Quincey saw, and which represented the young poet as "tall, slender, and presenting the air of an elegant flower, whose head drooped from being surcharged with rain." This should be a very valuable and characteristic drawing. It is noticeable that the more we collate the descriptions of Shelley's appearance the less we are reminded of the die-away conventional likeness, and the more of that rough bust by Mrs. Leigh Hunt which is now in the possession of Mr. W. B. Scott.

In dealing with the most painful section of Shelley's life, his separation from his first wife, Mr. Symonds shows great good-sense and tact. He states, clearly and without prejudice, such facts as are yet known of the conduct of all the persons concerned, and his enthusiasm for the memory of the poet does not blind him at all to the very grave moral responsibility which the latter seems to have shirked in abandoning his wife. Certain, it is true, of those who have most opportunity of knowing what actually were the facts of the case persist in asserting that documents exist which, without casting any slur on Harriet, completely vindicate Percy's character. But these documents are not produced, and on this circumstance Mr. Symonds has some remarks with which it is impossible not fully to coincide:—

"So far as this is possible, I have attempted to narrate the most painful episode in Shelley's life as it occurred, without extenuation and without condemnation. Until the papers, mentioned with such insistence by Lady Shelley and Mr. Garnett, are given to the world, it is impossible that the poet should not bear the reproach of heartlessness and inconstancy in this, the gravest of all human relations. Such, however, is my belief in the essential goodness of his character, after allowing, as we must do, for the operation of his peculiar principles upon his conduct, that I for my own part am willing to suspend my judgment till the time arrives for his vindication. The language used by Lady Shelley and Mr. Garnett justifies us in expecting that that vindication will be as startling as complete. If it is not, they, as pleading for him, will have overshot the mark of prudence."

Almost all that we know of Shelley is so singularly guileless and self-sacrificing, fearless and modest, that when, as in the case in point, we do come upon what seems like an instance of gross and cowardly selfishness, we seem to do well in suspending our judgment, as Mr. Symonds says, without blinding ourselves for a moment to the wickedness of the conduct, if it be finally proved. It is certain that Shelley did not

consider gravely enough the heavy responsibility that lay upon him, as the preacher of a transcendental deism, to abstain with especial care from the mere appearance of evil. But his true self was so pure and gracious that it moved even a pronounced opponent like De Quincey into a rapture of praise, into words that seem bathed in tears, a vision of "the eternal child, cleansed from his sorrow, radiant with joy, having power given him to forget the misery which he suffered, power given him even to forget the misery which he caused, and leaning with his heart upon that dove-like faith against which his erring intellect had rebelled."

The main scope and method of Mr. Symonds's book is biographical, but he inserts at appropriate points a variety of critical remarks which will greatly assist readers who approach Shelley first by this pathway. He has not a great enthusiasm for *Alastor*; it is probable that he finds, as mature readers are apt to do, the air a little chilly along the Chorasmanian shore. But in his laudation of *The Cenci* and *Prometheus Unbound* he does not yield a whit to the most pronounced Shelleyan. I am not quite sure that he does not pass from the judicial a little into the declamatory in his special pleading for the misty portions of the latter drama. Nothing has exceeded or can exceed the sublimity and choral loveliness of the best and longest passages of *Prometheus Unbound*, but there are long pauses of dialogue in which Shelley seems to pour out, with all his peculiar ebullience and exuberance, a tide of exaggerated and hyper-harmonic verse, the plain meaning of which is quite indistinct enough to be dubbed nonsense in the work of a lesser man. Perhaps Mr. Symonds would have done better had he distinctly pointed out that if Shelley is in the *Prometheus* at his best, he is also sometimes at his worst. It is in a more critical spirit that he has dealt with the false note that spoils for many of us the liquid and perfumed cadences of *Epipsychidion*. The passage in which Mr. Symonds winds up his argument, and gives a final summary of the genius of the poet, contains in a nutshell the consensus of contemporary opinion on Shelley's verse. If time is to bring any modification of that opinion, it can hardly be in the direction of still further glory.

EDMUND W. GOSSE.

Ungarische Lyriker, aus dem Ungarischen übersetzt von Gustav Steinacker. (Leipzig and Pest.)

THIS volume consists of translations from the lyrics of modern Hungarian poets into German verse. A Hungarian himself, though German by long residence in or near Weimar, Herr Steinacker is known as an author by translations, original poems, and other literary efforts. A patriotic wish to diffuse the knowledge of the poetry of his native land has resulted in the praiseworthy volume before us, which contains three hundred poems of various lengths, and, it must be confessed, still more various merit, by more than ninety writers of the Hungarian revival, dating from about a century back.

The German-reading public is of course immeasurably more extended than any to

which Hungarian is a known language, and the German dress in which Herr Steinacker has, often with admirable precision and poetic sensibility, clothed these songs should ensure them access to a wide circle. An historical sketch of the rise of Hungarian literature, drawn from trustworthy sources, introduces the poems, to which is also prefixed a short memoir of each poet.

The Hungarian poetry began, as the poetry of other lands, with the narrative or epic. One of the most famous of such poems recites the deeds of King Ladislaus the saintly, who is a grand figure in the traditional history. These epics, gathered from the mouth of the people, were preserved by the clerks in a Latin version, plain or metrical, as the case might be. The muse of the Magyars, though not disdainful of love-songs, still sought expression as centuries passed in the same narrative form, and the events of the day thus received chronicle, coloured by the feeling of the people. A patriotic spirit has throughout nearly its entire history given to the poetry of Hungary a prevalent political character, and this in spite of long periods of national calamity or repression. As Germany had its Thirty Years' War, so had Hungary her war of one hundred and eighty years, down to the Szatmarer peace in 1711, and during this fearful time no national literature could flourish. Under Maria Theresa vain hopes of development bore no fruit: when Georg Bessenyei, under her successor, Joseph II., thrilled the land into patriotic consciousness by his famous plea for the use of the Magyar language. The Government sought once for all to stifle the voice of the people by arbitrary imposition of the German tongue in State affairs, law courts and public schools, instead of the Latin side by side with Hungarian, according to former usage. But repression only aroused indignant opposition, and from Bessenyei's protest dates the re-awakening of the national literature, though as a writer he was himself tainted with French partialities. The foundation, consequent on this movement, of an Academy in the early years of the current century for the correction and cultivation of the Hungarian language and literature, stimulated and chiefly aided by the noble Count Stephan Széchenyi, has resulted in a fast-increasing and enriched national literature, one phase of which is well illustrated by Herr Steinacker's collection of lyrics.

The poets of this century, noble or lowly born, seem faithful sons of the soil. They have fought for their country, from Alexander Kisfaludy downwards, with pen and with sword, and when these for the time have been laid aside, then in the council-chambers still they have befriended her with their tongues. In literary production the Hungarian writers have proved singularly versatile, the same man often showing equal power in the drama, lyric verse, romance, or political controversy. The lives of some read like a story-book. Take Alexander Petöfi, for instance, with his restless pursuit of knowledge through a career of troubles; the strange fascination possessed for him by the stage, on which he in vain struggled for the fame as an actor which was duly his as an advocate and

founder of the national drama; his activity as a political writer; and, lastly, after fighting in the revolutionary struggles of '48-49, his mysterious disappearance at the battle of Schässburg. After that disastrous day he was no more seen, and he probably found with his brave comrades a nameless grave, though the people cling to the belief that he will yet reappear among them, and though occasional rumours represent him as still alive in Siberia.

Upon questions arising between the ultra-Magyars and the mixed races which make up the Hungarian nation Herr Steinacker touches in his Introduction and Appendix, from rather a German point of view. However sound and wise may be his warnings to his countrymen, we have nothing to do with them here: but as a translator who has had unusual difficulties of idiom and form to overcome, we beg heartily to commend his work. A more spirited version than that of the splendid ballad, "Ladislaus der Heilige," of Johann Arany could scarcely be desired; while in lyrics of Karl Kisfaludy, Michael Vörösmarty, Petöfi, Losonczy, Tóth, and others, he has been equally happy.

A. D. ATKINSON.

The Registers of Ecclesfield Parish Church, Yorkshire, 1558-1619, and the Churchwardens' Accounts, 1520-1546. Annotated by Alfred Scott Gatty. (London: Bell & Sons; Sheffield: Leader & Sons.)

THE rage for antiquarian research has found its latest development in the fashion of printing and publishing entire Parish Registers. Such precautions for the preservation of local records form a strange contrast with the negligence of the last century, when the registers were usually left to the mercy of the parish-clerk and were exposed to every form of destruction which ignorance and carelessness could devise. It frequently happened that they were mutilated by collectors of autographs and then sold for waste-paper; or if they were written on parchment they were often cut up for patterns by tailors and lace-makers. It will be found in the evidence taken by the Parliamentary Committee of 1833 that in one parish in Sussex the rector used to send his pheasants to his friends with the addresses written on slips of parchment cut off from his old register; and that at Christ Church, in Hampshire, the curate's wife deliberately used up the earliest registers for kettle-holders. The work of destruction was so rapid in the eighteenth century that Baker, the historian of Nottinghamshire, found that out of the nine registers commencing in 1538, which were examined by Mr. Bridges in 1718 for his History of the county, only four survived in 1826, and that of the seventy registers which were perfect in 1718, 22 per cent. had completely disappeared before 1827. This deplorable negligence is now happily at an end, and the tide of public opinion has set in the extreme opposite direction, for the Harleian Society has opened a subscription expressly for the publication of Parish Registers in their entirety, and similar publications are advertised in all parts of the kingdom. No one can dispute the importance of carefully pre-

serving all the registers which time and accident have spared, for they are indispensable to local historians and biographers; but this wholesale printing of the names of every person who happened to be baptised, married, or buried in an obscure country parish is a deplorable illustration of the proverbial forgetfulness of antiquaries that human life and memory have their limits, and that knowledge gains by forgetting what does not deserve to be remembered.

Mr. Alfred Scott Gatty has devoted a quarto volume to the first sixty-one years of the Registers of Ecclesfield, which he has transcribed from cover to cover, and has illustrated with infinite labour by copious extracts from the Will Office at York. He has succeeded in identifying many of the persons mentioned; but they are all, without exception, of the middle or lower rank, and it may safely be affirmed that there is not a single name among them which was ever heard of before by any ordinary reader. Of all the wills, too, which Mr. Gatty has examined and abstracted, the only one which contains any point of interest to the general reader is the eccentric will of the Elizabethan Vicar of Ecclesfield, John Tyas, which is dated May 30, 1580, and commences in this singular fashion:—

"I fynde in Gods lawe and his holy worde that *bona ecclesie sunt bona pauperum* (Aug.) a prelate may not bequeath or give the Church goods to his cosinges or kinsfolkes, *quia Moses distribuens boves et plaustra Levitis nullum dedit filiis Caath* (Kothath) *sibi carne propinquus* (Num. 7); *sed moriturus rogavit dominum idoneum ducem populo providere, nullum de stirpe sua nominavit.* *Iosue distribuens terram Israelitis minorem partem dedit tribui suae* (Jos. 17). *At dominus noster Jesus Christus neque Jacobum majorem neque minorem, vel Joseph Justum, Simonem aut Judam seu sibi Johannem prae ceteris dilectum promovit ad apicem et regimen suae ecclesiae, qui omnes consanguinei et de sua stirpe fuerunt, sed Petrum* (Joh. 21). *Canones Apostolorum 39 et 15 docent nos clericos testamenta nostra disponere sive ordinare.*"

The churchwardens' accounts are dreary beyond description, and contain none of those entries relating to obsolete customs and manners which are so often a redeeming feature in such documents. It may be remarked, however, that one could scarcely expect to find so late as 1543 a charge for image-gilding and for repairing the Sanctus bell. Can the blank in the amount of the first entry possibly mean that the payment was disallowed?

"1543

Payd to Robert Wille toward ye ymage
gilldyng
It. paid for a bellstreng to ye sanctus
bell viij d"

Mr. Gatty's accuracy and industry suggest the wish that they had been employed on a register containing some names of historical interest; for while so much remains to be done to complete our knowledge of famous men, it is painful to see time and pains expended on people who lived and died in obscurity. There are few registers which deserve to be printed and annotated on the scale which Mr. Gatty has applied to the Registers of Ecclesfield, and the classic of this peculiar literature is beyond all question the Registers of Westminster Abbey, which

were printed by the Harleian Society in 1876. But the Abbey Registers stand alone in their intrinsic interest and historical importance, for they abound with names which are honoured and familiar wherever the English language is spoken, and the consummate skill of the editor, Colonel Chester, has converted them into a handbook of English genealogy and biography. It is a *reductio ad absurdum* when the publication of this glorious bed-roll is quoted as a precedent for printing the humble annals of Yorkshire yeomen and peasantry; and it is difficult to read Mr. Gatty's book without being provoked by the want of proportion between the amount of labour employed and the value of the result obtained.

EDMOND CHESTER WATERS.

Autobiography of Sir George Biddlecombe, C.B. (Chapman & Hall.)

READERS of the works of the late Captain Marryat, in which naval life in all its phases, as it was half a century ago, is so admirably portrayed, will remember the pictures drawn by that eminent author of the several grades of officers then employed in His Majesty's Service. Among these was the Master. Since those days, however, steam and modern science have made a revolution in the navy, and the ranks of Master and Mate are now as obsolete as the old stage-coach which flourished about the same time.

True, the duties that appertained to the Master's office have still to be carried out, and they are important duties, one of them being the pilotage of the ship, under the directions of the captain, from port to port; while he is also indirectly responsible for the expenditure of certain stores connected with the warrant-officers' departments, and also for the rigging, anchors, cables, &c. But he is no longer the Master; he possesses a higher-sounding title, and his social position is superior. In former days he was frequently an officer who had risen entirely through his own merits: perhaps had entered the navy late in life from the merchant service; generally a little rough, but a thorough sailor. Now it is very different; and the officer of the present day on whom has fallen the mantle of the Master, although equally as good a sailor as his predecessor, is a gentleman of refinement and culture, and one who by education and often by birth commands a place in society.

We cannot help associating the autobiographer of the memoirs now before us with the Master of the old school; and in doing so nothing is further from our thoughts than to imply a want of respect to the memory of him who did not survive to see the crowning work of his life in the hands of the public; indeed, we are supported in our opinion by his own words, for he informs us in a short Preface that he commenced life with only a "limited education," but with "energy, strength of will, and perseverance."

The contents of the early chapters tend also to corroborate our expressed opinion, the first five being devoted to a period of eight years, during which time the author served in various capacities, from a ship-boy to first mate of a merchant ship, in dif-

ferent parts of the world. These chapters abound with adventures of all kinds, told in a plain and simple style, such as, treated by the pen of a highly imaginative author, would form a splendid foundation for a sensational novel. The *nonchalant* way of describing a duel in which the author was one of the principals is characteristic of the writer and the times in which he lived. The quarrel arose, we are told, from a trivial matter—nothing more than the loss of the worm of the ramrod of his gun, which he had lent to one of his messmates.

"One word led to another, and in the end to a serious quarrel; so serious, indeed, that it had to be decided by a resort to arms. So trivial an affair would, in the present day, assuredly have ended in empty words, and it is difficult to imagine, in the present feeling towards duelling (a practice chiefly confined to the innocuous and often ridiculous sword-combats in France), that we actually went ashore next morning to fight it out. The result proved us both tolerable marksmen, and that we meant mischief; my antagonist's ball passing between my legs and scarring the flesh in the lower part of the left thigh, whilst mine went through his right forearm. Here the affair luckily terminated, for we returned on board and were ever afterwards good friends."

His excuse for participating in this affray was "that such was the practice of the age," and that he "could not with honour have declined the encounter."

In the year 1831 he joined the Naval Service in the capacity of Second Master. His first experiences of the navy could not have been agreeable, for he served in a ship that "had not a good reputation for the comfort of her officers." The commander of the *Aetna* had certainly an odd and unpleasant way of enforcing the execution of his orders—a way that would hardly at the present day meet with the approval of "My Lords" at Whitehall. The following will serve to illustrate his manner. Mr. Biddlecombe, while surveying on the west coast of Africa, was driven in a small boat by a heavy gale of wind out of sight of his vessel and of land. He tells us:—

"About noon we descried the masts of the *Aetna*, and shortly afterwards, nearer to us, made out the first barge at anchor. As we had been now thirty-six hours without anything to eat or drink, I had no hesitation in ordering the men to pull for the barge. When we got alongside, I observed a signal made on board the *Aetna*; but as it had no reference to us, I took no further notice of it. After getting the refreshment we wanted, we worked to windward towards our own barge, and in doing so passed at some little distance from the *Aetna*. I was very considerably surprised when Commander Belcher opened fire on us from the *Aetna* with blank guns, following them up with *shotted ones, twenty-two in number*, some of the shots passing unpleasantly close. Then, and then only, the first lieutenant, Mr. Mitchell, detected the mistake which had brought this reprimand upon us. The signal made by the *Aetna* was intended to be my recall, but the signalman had in error hoisted that of *another boat*!"

The italics are ours. We are not surprised to read further on that on the arrival of the ship in England the Admiralty immediately gave orders to pay her off, and that she was re-commissioned the following day by a different commander, but the other officers were all re-appointed.

The author was next employed on the

West Indian and Pacific stations, and he seems to have taken every opportunity consistent with his ship-duties of visiting the various places of interest, even though he had to accomplish a distance of ninety miles on horseback in sixteen hours—a performance of which he appears to be not a little proud. We next read of him as master of the *Talbot* in the Mediterranean; the six chapters in which this cruise is related are full of interest, and contain a brief account of the siege and capture of the fortress of St. Jean d'Acre, at which Mr. Biddlecombe did good service in surveying the bay, thereby enabling the squadron to avoid the shoals with which the neighbourhood abounded. While at Corfu, he tells us, with perhaps pardonable pride, how at a ball given at Government House he was selected by H.R.H. Prince George of Cambridge as his *vis-à-vis* to open the ball.

On leaving the Mediterranean the author received an appointment to the guard-ship at Port Royal, Jamaica, where he remained for three years, until ill-health compelled him to relinquish his duties and return to England. The numerous letters of approbation he received from the authorities, both at home and abroad, testify to the valuable services rendered by him during this period. Mr. Biddlecombe was subsequently employed as Master of the largest and most important vessels in the navy, among others H.M.'s yacht *Victoria and Albert*; but he will be best remembered as Master of the Baltic Fleet, to which important position he was appointed on the breaking-out of war with Russia in 1854, and in which capacity he did good and laudable service. His description of the operations in the Baltic, including the bombardment and fall of Bomarsund, will be read with interest. Our author's active life afloat ceased with his return from the Baltic, from which period until his retirement from the service at sixty years of age he was usefully employed at one or other of the Royal Dockyards. For his services, besides promotion, he was rewarded with the Companionship of the Bath, and in 1873 the honour of knighthood was conferred upon him.

An autobiography must necessarily savour very strongly of egotism, but we could have wished that this of Sir George Biddlecombe had been less redolent of it than it is. To make an autobiography a truthful one, the relation of every little incident connected with the author's life is essentially necessary, but the insertion of trivial and unimportant epistles is a work of supererogation that might well be dispensed with. On the whole, however, we can recommend the perusal of this little work to those who delight in reading adventurous stories, plainly and unaffectedly narrated. It is at any rate the story of the eventful life of a brave and honest man. The compilation of it was evidently a work of love to the old sailor: for him there was no longer a hope of active service—a sheer hulk laid up in ordinary—a weather-beaten craft paid out of commission after a prolonged and tempest-tossed career; yet the idea of publishing the history of his own life, so that those far and near might become acquainted with it, infused a new

spirit into the veteran, and it was a pleasure that only terminated with his death, which took place three months ago, while his work was actually in the press. With the exception, perhaps, of the Life of Captain Cook, it is the only record of the career of a Master of the Royal Navy that, to our knowledge, has ever been published; and it is a work that will be read with interest by many of the autobiographer's old friends and shipmates.

A. H. MARKHAM.

The Libell of Englishe Policye, 1436. Text und metrische Uebersetzung von Wilhelm Hertzberg, mit einer geschichtlichen Einleitung von Reinhold Pauli. (Leipzig: S. Hirzel.)

THOUGH dedicated to the Hanseatic Historical Society, this volume claims equal attention on this side of the Channel. The curious English work contained in it is, indeed, no new discovery. It was printed as early as 1600 in Hakluyt's *Voyages*, and again among the *Political Poems*, edited for the Rolls Series by the late Thomas Wright, while its historical value has been recognised by a succession of writers from Selden downwards. So far, however, from being superfluous, Dr. Hertzberg's new edition is cordially welcome, for it not only gives us for the first time a critically accurate text, but has the advantage of a Preface by so thoroughly competent an historical scholar as Prof. Pauli, of Göttingen. In his own further contribution, also, Dr. Hertzberg has successfully achieved a difficult task; but a metrical German version, however spirited and readable, will, of course, be less appreciated here than by his own countrymen.

Unlike its author, the date of the *Libell* may be easily detected, internal evidence fixing it soon after the abortive attempt upon Calais by the Flemings in the summer of 1436. Nor is "the trew Processe of English policye" left long unexplained, for within the first stanza it is emphatically summed up in the couplet—

"Cherish marchaundyss, keep th' amiralties
That we be maysteres of the narowe see."

But, although his policy can be thus concisely stated, the author has happily chosen a method of enforcing his counsel that gives his poem of nearly twelve hundred lines the double value of an able political pamphlet and a general review of fifteenth-century commercial relations. Obviously his special reason for urging at the time the "kepyng of the see" was the effect that a blockade of the Straits would have upon the Flemings, whose very existence, he argues, depended on their foreign trade:—

"For the litelle land of Flaundres is
But a staple to other landes ywis."

For proof of this he accordingly enters into a curiously minute description of the "commodities" of different countries, from Italy to Iceland, and from "Portingale" to "Pruce," showing how they all "must need pas by our English costes," and how the command of the Channel would thus enable his countrymen to starve the Flemings into good behaviour. Naturally, however, he is thus led on to give his deductions a wider application. Looking beyond his

immediate object, he saw clearly that England's real opportunity for power lay, not on land, but on the sea; and without, therefore, actually deprecating the continuance of the hopeless struggle for empire in France, his arguments and his "incidents" from history are mainly directed to prove the paramount importance of a strong and efficient navy, not only for the protection of the country and its commerce, but as the surest means of securing a commanding position in Europe. Even in less capable hands, such a theme must have imparted to the poem a peculiar interest. As it is, the amount and value of the information it conveys, and that, too, in most readable form, are alike remarkable; and the example of "the wise lord baron of Hungerford," who read it, we are told, "alle over in a night," cannot be too strongly recommended.

That a work altogether so important still remains anonymous is a singular fact; and the question of its authorship, therefore, is the one out of many points of interest to which I shall here confine myself. In the first place, it is clear, I think, that the writer did not omit to give his name from any fear of consequences. Where there is a studious avoidance of anything like personal censure, there was no motive for secrecy; and in numerous passages, on the contrary, he speaks as if his name were already familiar to those whom he addressed. Now, the *Envoi* "Go forth libelle . . . and pray my lordes thee to take in grace" is an indication that the poem was originally submitted, not so much, as Dr. Pauli supposes, to the general public as to the members of the Privy Council, one of whom, Lord Hungerford, had already approved it; and this is borne out by the fact that the second edition, which Dr. Pauli places not later than 1443, is expressly dedicated to three other most important members, two being the Chancellor and Treasurer, and the third probably the Lord Chamberlain. And while the author thus appears to have been well known to those in power, his own condition in life may in a measure be inferred from the sources from which he drew his materials; for not only does he claim to have "commoned both with high and low," and refer in familiar terms to such authorities as the Earl of Ormonde, Lord Hungerford, and "a good squiere in time of parlamente," but his precise and intimate knowledge of political and commercial affairs in every quarter could hardly have been obtained at the time by one who was not himself in an official position. In this respect it is significant that so many of his sentiments are substantially embodied in subsequent Acts of the legislature and executive. It is worth while, for example, to compare his expressions towards the Portuguese—"these ben our frendes," &c.—with ordinances in their favour, in the same and following years, to be found in the *Foedera*; and his estimate of the value of the German trade, "which is encrees ful grete unto this land," preceded by a few months only a commercial treaty with Prussia and the Hanse Towns. Again, without suggesting a direct relation of cause and effect, there is strong presumptive evidence of a

connexion between his most instructive remarks on the trading practices of the Lombards and the statute against alien merchants passed in the Parliament of 1439. But the real clue to his identity is probably to be found, as Dr. Pauli suggests, in the chapter on Ireland. His whole account of this country and the "policye and keping therof and conquering of the wilde Irish" contains, in fact, evidence of a strong personal feeling as well as exceptional knowledge. At the same time, there is no necessity for concluding with Dr. Pauli that he had actually been in the island; nor does he say that he had already composed (*verfasst hat*) another treatise "made onely for that soil and site." His words "I cast to write" express, of course, an intention; but whether or not it was ever carried out there is no evidence to show. The only one of his informants whom he names—and he could hardly have had a better—is the Earl of Ormonde, a former Lord-Lieutenant. But, besides what he may have learnt orally from him and others, I cannot help thinking that he had access to an important State paper—namely, the letter on the lamentable condition of Ireland which was brought over to the King from the Council at Dublin by Sir Thomas Stanley, the Lord-Lieutenant, in 1435; and, not only so, but in the passage beginning "Wise men sayen, which follen not ne douten," a reference may be detected to other confidential letters on the same subject written to the King at an earlier period by John Swayne, Archbishop of Armagh (Gilbert, *Viceroy of Ireland*, p. 573). In order to identify the author, therefore, we must look for someone who, besides fulfilling other conditions, was at once in intimate relations with public men and affairs, and deeply concerned for the better government of Ireland. This being so, I venture to suggest (for it is no more than a suggestion) that he is to be found in Adam Moleyns, the Clerk of the English Privy Council. My special reason for fixing upon him is the fact that he is said (Tanner, *Bibl. Brit. Hib.*, p. 529, note) to have been himself recommended by the King to the Pope for the archbishopric of Armagh in 1436, the very year in which the poem was written. This of itself, if the statement is correct, is enough to account for the tone of his Irish policy; but in addition, there was a bond of relationship between him and the Sir Thomas Stanley mentioned above, one of whose daughters was married to Sir Richard Moleyns, or Molineux, of Sefton, his nephew, and another to Sir John Savage, a relation probably of Sir Thomas Savage, his stepfather. As to his other qualifications for writing such a work, it is needless to point out the unequalled facilities he enjoyed by the nature of his office; and his reputation for talent and business capacity, as well as his special employment in commercial negotiations, may be easily gathered from the *Foedera* and the *Proceedings of the Privy Council*. I may briefly mention, however, a few other points of seeming contact between him and the author. Thus the one, we are told (p. 7), was a north-countryman: the other was a native of Lancashire; the one was a Latin scholar and a student of his history (p. 55): the other was praised for his

learning by Aeneas Sylvius and left a library to Oxford; the one in his last chapter adopts a decidedly theological tone (p. 63): the other was Dean of Salisbury and afterwards a bishop; and, lastly, the "kepyng of the see," which was advocated by the one, was enforced in 1442, the year after the other became himself a Privy Councillor. And on the supposition that Moleyns was the author, in what light are we to regard the poem itself—as the expression of his individual views, or as a manifesto of policy on behalf of a section of the Council, of which, it may be, Lord Hungerford was the leader? In either case, it cannot be doubted that the guiding motive that runs through it is an earnest desire for peace—"to keep this regne in rest" after its exhaustion by the long contest with France. And this, too, is entirely consistent with what is known of the after-career of the Clerk of the Council. Made Privy Seal in 1444 and Bishop of Chichester in 1445, he strenuously seconded the efforts of the Earl of Suffolk to bring the Hundred Years' War to an end, and in 1444 and again in 1448 he was one of the commissioners to treat for a truce and perpetual peace. The reasons for his murder by sailors at Portsmouth, in January 1450, are obscure; but what Prof. Stubbs, in speaking of Suffolk, has described as "a vicious, sturdy, and unintelligent hatred to the men who were seeking peace" had, probably, something to do with it. One chronicler, in fact, plainly hints as much. The epithet he applies to him in recording his death is "pacem sitiens," and it may be placed beside the passage—

"Keep than the see as the walle of Englonde
And than is England kept by Goddes sonde,
That is, for any thing that is without
England were at ese withouten dout.
And thus shulde every land oon with another
Enterecom as brother with his brother,
And live togeder werreles in unitee
Without rancour in verrey charitee,
In rest and pees to Christes great plessaunce
Withouten stryf, debate and variaunce."

Whether Adam Moleyns or any other, the name of the man who wrote these lines deserves to be rescued from oblivion.

GEO. F. WARNER.

NEW NOVELS.

Pomeroy Abbey: a Romance. By Mrs. Henry Wood. In Three Volumes. (R. Bentley & Son.)

Clare. By Lizzie Alldridge. (Marcus Ward & Co.)

Essays in Romance. By John Skelton, LL.D. ("Shirley"). (Blackwood.)

Pomeroy Abbey is Mrs. Wood's twenty-fifth novel, an average of about one in every eight months, without counting the minor literary fry produced by her during the same period, since she began with her tetotal story, *Danebury House*, in 1860. To say that she has not yet written herself out, which is the bare fact, is therefore high praise of its kind, for literary fecundity, like physical fecundity, usually connotes weakness. Mrs. Wood has not the natural qualities which are necessary for a great writer of fiction, or the acquisitions and patient striving after excellence which help to make a finished and durable one; but she has a gift for putting a story

together so as to be readable and sometimes even interesting, despite a total lack of style, a too frequent deficiency of good taste, and a constant overloading of wholly unimportant details, usually relating to dress and dining, to the injury of the general effect. We fear that twenty years' perseverance in the same way of writing makes amendment of these faults, which might readily have been cured earlier, highly improbable; but it is very much to set against them that she exhibits considerable inventiveness, often devises strikingly dramatic situations, and is entirely free from that morbid love of unwholesome and unsavoury topics which characterises a too large and too powerful school of female—not lady—novelists in the present day, so that she has fairly earned her popularity. By entitling this last story of hers "a romance," Mrs Wood seems to intend disarming criticism directed against the probability of the details and surroundings of the narrative as well as against that of the plot, and to be wise in so doing. For she has, in the first place, represented the owners of the Abbey which is the central scene of the story, albeit commoners in legal status, as enjoying a sort of brevet or courtesy title as "Lords of Pomeroy," so that the reigning squire and his wife, instead of being addressed and announced as mere "Mr. and Mrs. Pomeroy," adopt and receive the title of "Lord and Lady of Pomeroy," and are spoken of by their retainers and friends as "the lord" and "the lady." This is a little difficult to start with, as feudal dignities of the sort disappeared very early in England, and it would have been easier to accept it had the scene been laid in Scotland or Ireland, where certain families till quite recently, and a very few even now, are traditionally recognised as of a degree entitling them to rank with great peers of old descent, and above, not merely ordinary gentry, but the minor and newer creations of the peerage itself, albeit, of course, they do not enjoy the specific legal privileges attaching to even a newly knighted tradesman. A greater fault is that Mrs. Wood, having chosen to make nearly all her characters hereditary Roman Catholics of good family, or else their servants and dependents, has not taken pains to get up the details so as to be in keeping—unlike Lord Beaconsfield in *Henrietta Temple*—but has made all sorts of little mistakes, which produce a somewhat ludicrous effect on those who know the facts. She has ventured, moreover, with boldness into the thickets of canon law, not with eminent success; and one part of her story is actually taken up, as though it were dated under Henry VII., and not Victoria, with negotiations at Rome to persuade the Vatican to declare a certain marriage—perfectly valid and indisputable in English law—null and void, with the object of altering the descent of an inheritance: a result which could not possibly be attained even had the Curia been favourable, or, indeed, the suit itself one which could conceivably have been brought at all under the circumstances, where no obstacle known to the ecclesiastical law could be pleaded against the marriage. Here and there we seem to note reminiscences of former tales by Mrs. Wood, as

though she had been obliged to fall back a little on old materials; and, notably, there are echoes of the *Shadow of Ashlydyat* and of *Trevlyn Hold* observable. But the chief incident of the book is very cleverly managed, and, albeit not quite artful enough to escape detection by experienced and wary old novel-readers, yet it is certain to baffle the ordinary customers of circulating libraries; and Mrs. Wood has given more action and less irrelevant gossiping dialogue in the book than in its two or three immediate precursors, so that we part from her on entirely friendly terms.

Miss Alldridge's new book is not quite so good as her first. We incline to think that one reason for the slight falling-off is that the scale is too reduced to suit her. It would be a severe test for the most accomplished artists of the day if they were called on to paint on the scrap of canvas which suffices Meissonier, and there is a similar difficulty to be overcome by a writer who has begun with a three-volume novel of a thousand pages, and is called on to produce a tale complete in about a quarter of the space. The writing is pure and graceful, but there is very little story, and the author does not seem to have been quite able to carry out in execution the idea she had in her mind—to wit, the friction of a highly nervous, shy, dreamy, and fastidious temperament against a couple of uncongenial though thoroughly kindly minds, endued with a certain coarseness of fibre, and with a Philistine bias in thought and action. Clare Sewell herself is drawn with some skill, but the picture of the ugliness and dulness of her life, and of the manner in which the inevitable young man wakes her up and brings her out of prison, inevitably suggests Miss Thackeray's more successful treatment of the similar theme in her *Sleeping Beauty*, albeit Cecilia, the princess there, is of much coarser clay than Clare Sewell. Yet, again, there has been a conscientious effort to make the heroine's guardians amusing—the husband as a heavy, good-humoured man, who tries hard against nature to be funny; and the wife as a clever and capable Mrs. Malaprop—but Miss Alldridge displays no very marked faculty of humour in this book, certainly not so much as she showed in *Love and Law*, and the scenes where Mr. and Mrs. Garland play the chief parts drag a little. She has been rather happier in sketching a strong-minded young woman with all the slang of the newest culture-fads, but apparently because she has taken the portrait from life and has not drawn on her fancy for it. On the other hand, she has brought a scrap of City business, connected with a mercantile fraud, into her story, and has got the details right, a most exceptional achievement for any lady but Mrs. J. H. Riddell. The story is a commendable piece of work on the whole, but the author has done better before, and will, we hope and believe, do better again.

Mr. Skelton's workmanship is of a different order from that of the other two writers we have been considering. They may be read and put aside; he should be kept and studied. He writes for an unlike public, and in a wholly dissimilar strain, with a freshness, culture, and finish rarely

to be found now in the class of literature to which he has given powers too masculine and vigorous not to inspire regret at the fugitive character of many of his themes. Perhaps it may seem hypercritical to add, when so much thought and reading is displayed as he constantly exhibits, that a certain undercurrent seems lacking which can be given only by a degree of familiarity with the best Greek literature, unfortunately rare in Scotland. Mr. Skelton writes of scenery and country life as few can write of it now—since Charles Kingsley went from us—save Mr. William Black and Mr. R. D. Blackmore, but we miss somehow the subtle echoes of Theocritus which both Kingsley and Blackmore give us. He has suggestive glimpses into theosophy and philosophy, but the thought would have been rounded and ripened by Aristotle and Plato. There is humour, but the influence of Aristophanes is not visible. All this would be quite beside the mark in dealing with writers of a different stamp. It would be the merest pedantry, for example, to speak thus of Dickens; but Mr. Skelton is nothing if not scholarly, and the very fact that, albeit more serious and dignified in his treatment of his subjects than Peacock was, he yet suggests that admirable and too-little-studied writer: makes one desire somewhat of Peacock's Attic lore, less prominent, it may be, but yet present, and—like the onion atoms in Sydney Smith's salad—scarce suspected, animating the whole. But this second series of his *Essays* fully maintains the position won for him by the earlier issue. His prose, terse, yet eloquent, vivid, and yet restrained, strikes us as superior to his verse, which, though full of ideas, and not defective in form, has scarcely lyrical flow sufficient to give it vitality. It is good of its kind, it is even much superior to a great deal of very fair contemporary verse, but it does not lay hold of us and force us to listen to the singer. It is an exercise in the schools; whereas when Mr. Skelton turns to subjects where he is in earnest, as in his sketch of the Rev. Stephen Holdfast, there is a glow and force in his sentences which is more truly of the nature of poetry, though lacking its external form, than his directly rhythmical compositions.

RICHARD F. LITLEDAL.

GIFT-BOOKS.

The Curious Adventures of a Field Cricket. By Dr. Ernest Candèze. Translated from the French by N. D'Anvers. With Illustrations by C. Renard. (Sampson Low.) It will be difficult for the Christmas season to produce a more delightful gift than this set of curious adventures. The book is handsomely bound and well printed, and the translation, which on account of the many scientific names used in the original must have been an exceedingly arduous task, has been accomplished with ease and grace. The story itself is clever, and full of instruction as to the manners and customs of the insect-world, the facts in it being far more astounding than most fiction. The part relating to the ants and the description of their nest on the stump of the old tree is most interesting, and the field-cricket himself becomes quite a personality before the reader has done with him. But the great charm of the book lies in the illustrations, which are irresistibly funny, and beyond all praise. They must be seen to be

appreciated, and once seen will not soon be forgotten.

Theodora Cameron: a Home Story. By P. J. McKeen. (Hodder and Stoughton.) A very pleasant American story for girls. Throughout this generation the war will probably continue to be the central point of interest in most American tales, but it is touched on in an interesting way in the story of Theodora's brothers and lover; and the good and observant spirit in which the whole book is written may be gathered from the following short extract:—

"There are women who are blessed with the gift of making life run smoothly. They have the intuition to speak the one word that will straighten out a misunderstanding; to keep silence when ruffled feelings need only to be let alone; to sprinkle a little balm on self-respect when it has been mortified; to look comprehension when one is unappreciated. They are thinking of others rather than themselves. Other women there are who possess the gift of friction. As if by instinct they throw in the one word that will irritate; they are sure to take things a little differently from the way they were meant; their vanity exposes a surface to be wounded wherever you touch."

My Mother's Diamonds. A Domestic Story. By Maria J. Greer. (Griffith and Farran.) What the diamonds have to say to the story we are unable to say, except that the mother of the heroine once puts them on when going out to dinner. The story is a picture of a very noisy and ill-brought-up family—in which one boy is rude and another greedy; one girl a tomboy and another a little goose. The elder sister has a great deal of trouble between the claims of these unmanageable brothers and sisters, an old miserly uncle, a runaway cousin and her lover, the curate; but a young lady who can say of her brothers when discussing them with the said curate, "One pines for peril, the other for pabulum. Their tendencies are terrible. I can neither endure them nor eradicate them," is likely to get through all difficulties and be found at the end of the volume in a position of safety.

An Elder Sister. By Frances Awdry. (Bemrose and Sons.) This is "a short sketch of Anne Mackenzie and her brother, the missionary bishop," by the author who did work of the same good kind before when describing in a little volume, uniform with *An Elder Sister*, the life and death of Bishop Patteson, under the title *The Life of a Fellow-Soldier*. The present book is very nearly, if not quite, as interesting, describing simply the devotion of this brother and sister to each other and to their self-denying mission work. The manly sincerity of Bishop Mackenzie's character gives it a charm for all readers; and this simple record of his life and death will be the means of preserving his memory with many, while it will make a great and good man known to others.

"*Buttons.*" By Ascott R. Hope. (Griffith and Farran.) "*Buttons*" is an amusing story, and carries a useful moral with it. The hero is a young gentleman whose father, to cure him of his overbearing manner to servants, compels him to take the place of the page-boy whom he has bullied out of his situation. The clumsy attempts of the exquisite Geoffrey, and his perturbation at having to play his unbecoming part before a distinguished guest of his father's, are very cleverly told; and, though we doubt the existence of many such sensible fathers, we may hope that the reading of "*Buttons*" at Christmas time will produce the same happy effect on boy readers, and that they will learn that "they must be gentle now they are gentlemen," and that the true gentleman is always scrupulously civil to those who serve him.

Aunt Charlotte's Stories of German History. By Charlotte M. Yonge. (Marcus Ward and Co.) Another volume of Miss Yonge's admirable series of histories for the little ones, and one of the most attractive of them, with numerous illustrations.

Ephraim and Helah. A Story of the Exodus. By Edwin Hodder. (Hodder and Stoughton.) It was a daring idea to work the plagues of Egypt into a religious novelette, but Mr. Hodder has performed this difficult feat far from unsuccessfully. There is a great deal of picturesque detail and accurate acquaintance with the natural features of the story, and the supernatural features are treated with a candour and breadth which are as welcome as they are rare in a book of the kind. The fortunes of one family are followed from the first scene of their cruel bondage, through each successive plague to the passage of the Red Sea. Moses, Aaron, Miriam, and Pharaoh are of course among the *dramatis personae*, and the stammering tongue and unimpressive appearance of Moses are turned to good account. Both Egyptians and Israelites are made to speak slightly of "the serpent trick" on which he bases so much belief, and some ingenious and interesting solutions of the mysterious plagues are suggested by the unbelieving Egyptians. As far as a book of the kind can be tolerated at all, *Ephraim and Helah* may be considered successful, and with a certain class of readers will be exceedingly popular.

Bright Sundays. (Cassell, Petter and Galpin.) One of the gaily-bound little volumes of pictures and one-page descriptive stories which children like.

Gilbert Wright the Gospeller. By F. Somner Merryweather. (S. W. Partridge and Co.) This is a tragic little tale of the Lollards, prettily told, but oppressively sad. It is "meant to lead young people to value still more than they do the inestimable privilege of a free gospel."

Mary with Many Friends. By Georgina M. Moore. (E. Marlborough and Co.) We do not wonder that Mary had many friends, for she is a dear little girl. She first has an illness, and then an amusing railway journey and a delightful sojourn in the country, where she learns many things which she enumerates at the end of her visit, winding up with: "And I know how the Sunday School is taught, and how the corn is thrashed in the machine; and I know how to play trap bat and ball, and I almost think I could play at Indians."

The Children's Isle. By Eliza Meteyard. (Hodder and Stoughton.) The right hand of "Silver Pen," who delighted our childhood, has not lost its cunning when it can write such a long story as *The Children's Isle*, and yet keep up the interest of it to the end. The scene is laid in the west of Ireland, on that grandest of sea-coasts. The plot is a peculiar one, and open to question as to probability. "A governess with a family" is advertised for, as the place is lonely. Consequently Mrs. Hexham takes over three children with her to be companions to the children she is about to teach. There is a castle with a mystery: a hideously deformed but most benevolent and accomplished lord; there are smugglers and a cave; there is a huge savage dog; there is an island where the children build a house; and there are all sorts of expeditions, and adventures, and scrambles and cookery—and everything is described with that minute detail in which Eliza Meteyard delights and which children so much appreciate. It is a pity that the unpleasant episode of Edith Hexham's marriage and relations was introduced at the end into a story which in no way needed it and would have been much better without it.

Queen Dora. The Life and Lessons of a Little Girl. By Kathleen Knox. (Griffith and Farran.) This is a most modern story, full of the newest views of education. When Dora is ten years old her father gives her Ruskin's *Modern Painters* as a birthday present, and her mother begins to teach her Chaucer. Dora turns out a very good helpful girl, and has the happiness of bringing sunshine into a dreary life which crosses the thread of her own; she also makes money by designing patterns when her parents are in temporary difficulties; in fact,

she is all that the best system of higher education could hope to produce, and the book is amusing and clever, though crude in some of its expressions.

Well-Spent Lives. By Herbert Edmonds. (C. Kegan Paul and Co.) This is a pleasant volume of short essays on well-known modern characters. It is a selection of typical men—the Poet, Wordsworth; the General, Sir H. Havelock; the Philosopher, Faraday; the Admiral, Parry; the Statesman, Wilberforce; the Physician, Dr. James Hope; the Schoolmaster, Dr. Arnold; the Explorer, David Livingstone; the Geologist, Prof. Sedgwick; the Surgeon, Sir C. Bell; the Lawyer, Sir Samuel Romilly; the Man of Business, George Moore. It will be popular as a prize-book, and be a pleasant possession to whoever gets it.

St. Quentin's, and other Stories. (Edinburgh Publishing Society.) These are five simple stories by five different authors. They make a nice little volume, and are well printed and well bound. By far the best of the stories is the first, which gives its name to the book; the character and temptation of Ira Divine, who loves the girl to whom his sailor brother is engaged, is finely sketched, and the catastrophe at the end is described with power.

Nellie. By L. J. Tomlinson. (E. Marlborough and Co.) A story of a good little girl, who supports a bedridden grandfather for some time by picking mushrooms. One of the well-intentioned little books which are written with a very small amount of knowledge of their subject.

Glenmorven: or, Child Life in the Highlands. By M. M. B. (Edinburgh Publishing Company.) The story of two of the naughtiest little girls we have met with in children's literature. *Glenmorven* will be popular with children, but it shows up parents to great disadvantage; and it is so faithful to life that it may have a disturbing effect on the minds of many young readers.

The Two Friends. By Lucien Biart. Translated by Mary de Hauteville. (Sampson Low and Co.) This is a story of what is very little removed from *gamin* life in Paris. The hero, Gaston, is a little boy who has a drunken father and a brutal stepmother. Gaston is brought up at first by an excellent aunt in the country, but is decoyed to Paris by his father. His life then becomes a long record of assault, starvation, and misery; but he has one friend, an apprentice, who knows what it is to have a drunken father and to live in constant abject terror of a beating. At last the brutal stepmother murders Gaston's father, and the little boy makes his escape to his aunt. The best scene in the book is where the two friends get accidentally locked in the Zoological Gardens at night, and the beasts and birds become terrible companions. In the rest of the story the horror is rather overdone, and the coarseness of the life depicted renders the book unpleasant in many parts.

Our Red-Coats and Blue-Jackets. Naval and Military History from 1793 to 1879. By Henry Stewart. (John Hogg.) This is a closely-printed and well-condensed volume, and many of the campaigns are described with great spirit. The book will be popular as putting into a compendious form histories of military and naval events with which we are all familiar; and for a work which covers such a large field it is exceptionally free from dry details. It commences with the story of the great French War; tells of Trafalgar, Corunna, Salamanca, and Waterloo; then passes on to the Russian War, and the Indian Mutiny; gives short accounts of our doings in China and New Zealand; goes more into detail about the Abyssinian Expedition and Ashantee War; and winds up with allusions to Shere Ali and Cabul.

Harty the Wanderer. By Fairleigh Owen. Illustrated by John Proctor. (Griffith and Farran.) Harty is a natural and healthy boy, and

his adventures are capably told. How he played truant from school for one hour; fell asleep in a wood; woke in the dark and cut his head; was carried off to sea by two sailors who had not time to do anything else with him; his adventures among savages, and subsequent shipwreck; his wonderful preservation and meeting with his parents, are incidents which are cleverly woven together; and the characters of the loving little sister Dolly and her Aunt Charlotte, and their adventures in seeking for the wanderer through remote places in England, will make the book as popular with girls as with their brothers.

Into Smooth Waters. By Mary Baskin. (James Clarke and Co.) The tempestuous life of a somewhat sentimental heroine is well described in this little book, whose author has a curiously unappreciative admiration for George Eliot, and makes frequent quotations from her writings in support of her own truisms. But the story has several elements of interest in it, and will make a popular gift-book at Christmas-time, especially in Sunday Schools among classes of young women.

Aunt Annette's Stories to Ada. By Annette A. Salaman. (Griffith and Farran.) A pretty illustrated book for children, containing four stories: "Sybil's Cat; or, Kindness to Animals;" "Herbert and the Dog that did not do his Duty;" "Lina's Disobedience and its Consequence;" and "Mabel and the Bird." The third story is very like the one of "Curious Jane," which was familiar to our childhood, and is not an improvement upon it.

The Boy's Walton. By Ulick J. Burke. (Marcus Ward and Co.) A capital book on fishing, with good illustrations and full quotations from Izaak Walton. We only hope that it will not keep boys from going to *The Complete Angler* for themselves, but simply serve as an introduction to it.

Kaspar and the Summer Fairies. By Julia Goddard. (Marcus Ward and Co.) A volume of very pretty fairy tales, interspersed with plenty of rhymes, which children always enjoy, and illustrations which are familiar to us in a delightful book of nursery-rhymes translated from the German, but which are so exceptionally good that they bear repetition.

WE have received from the Sunday School Union their annual volume, *Kind Words*, which is well bound, well illustrated, and generally attractive. Their smaller magazine, *The Morning of Life*, is to be enlarged and issued at the price of twopence monthly, under the title of "Excelsior." We hope that the editors will increase their number of popular scientific articles. From the same society we have had several little books intended for prizes in Sunday Schools. *Little Bess*, by N. W. Ellis, is a pretty story, and better written than most of its class. *The Infant Zephyr* is the well-told story of a little tight-rope-dancer who meets with an accident. *George's Temptation* is a good book for boys going out into life. *Who Shall Win?* is a useful story for little servant-maids. *The Chained Book* is a religious historical story of the time of Anne Boleyn. *A Pictorial Description of the Tabernacle in the Wilderness* is full of pretty coloured illustrations. A good address from J. Macgregor (Rob Roy) to Sunday School teachers, and some other penny books uniform with it in attractive colours. Some illuminated cards for the New Year. A packet of short stories, called *The Child's Cabinet*; and a very complete *Diary and Class Register* for teachers. As a whole, the illustrations of this Society might still be improved, though a great advance has been made upon their previous publications.

WE have also received *The Boys of Raby* and *The School and the World*, by E. White (printed for the Author by Wyman and Sons), and four pretty little square-shaped volumes of familiar

sacred verse, with charming outline illustrations, *The Old, Old Story, The Changed Cross, The King in His Beauty, and Little Lays for Little Lips.* F. M. OWEN.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THAT clever and amusing work, *Bismarck and the Men About Him during the War with France*, from the journals of Dr. Moritz Busch, the publication of which has made such a stir on the Continent, is to be translated into English by Mrs. Alexander Napier, and published as soon as may be by Messrs. Macmillan and Co. Its piquancy was well brought before the notice of English readers by the review which appeared in the *Times* of the 8th instant.

AMONG forthcoming contributions to local history is a little work entitled *Sketches of Hull Authors*, by the late Reginald W. Corlass. Among the authors noticed may be mentioned:—Marvell, Abraham de la Pryme, Master John Shawe, Captain Fox, Rhyming Thompson, Prof. Pryme, Perronet Thompson, M.P., Dr. Alderson, the Rev. J. Scott, A. H. Haworth, W. Spence, Charles Frost, Christopher Thomson, strolling player, artist, and author. The projected work will be under the editorial care of Mr. C. F. Corlass and Mr. William Andrews. The latter gentleman will contribute an Introduction, furnishing a biographical notice of the late Mr. Reginald W. Corlass.

MESSRS. HAMILTON, ADAMS AND Co. will publish shortly *Studies on the Text of Shakespeare: with Numerous Emendations and Appendices*, by John Bulloch.

MR. WALTER DE GRAY BIRCH has in preparation some *Memorials of Saint Guthlac, the Hermit of Crowland*. This has been undertaken in response to the desire expressed by many members of the Congress of the British Archaeological Association lately held at Wisbech, and by those who take an interest in the local history and literature of the neighbourhood, that the Latin and Anglo-Saxon MSS. and Harleian Pictorial Roll relating to St. Guthlac should be published.

A SECOND edition of Mr. Lewis Sergeant's *New Greece* has been called for, and will be in the hands of the public in the course of next week.

MR. W. H. ALLENUIT, of the Bodleian Library, has printed for private circulation the paper on *Printers and Printing in the Provincial Towns of England and Wales* which he read at the recent meeting of the Library Association at Oxford. In the hope of obtaining additional information from owners of locally-printed books, he has appended a list of 230 places in England and Wales, possessing printing-presses before the beginning of the present century. Several of the speakers at this meeting impressed upon local librarians the duty of collecting all the books printed in and relating to their special districts. In this spirit 1,000 pamphlets relating to London have just been purchased by the committee of the Guildhall Library from the pamphlet-catalogue of Mr. Clement Palmer, of Lower Clapton. From the same collection nearly 1,300 tracts concerning Oxfordshire have been obtained for the Bodleian Library.

MESSRS. VIRTUE AND Co. announce:—*Metal Work*, a series of more than 1,200 of the best examples which have attracted attention at the various International Exhibitions, with treatises on the principal industries which have produced them, edited by G. W. Yapp; *Gamle Norge: or, Rambles and Serambles in Norway*, by Robert Taylor Pritchett; a new school-prize edition of *Lamb's Tales from Shakespeare*; and *The Christian Birthday Souvenir*, selected and arranged by "Delta."

MESSRS. BICKERS AND SON have in the press a work on the prevailing Materialistic ideas, by Mr. Billing. While accepting the facts of science, Mr. Billing denies the deductions drawn from

them, and attempts to show that the facts, rightly considered, prove the existence of a Deity, Providence, and the immortality of the soul.

THE address delivered by Mr. Congreve in the Positivist School on the anniversary of the death of Auguste Comte has been published in a pamphlet form (C. Kegan Paul and Co.). As celebrating a religious commemoration, its chief interest will be confined to the small circle of devout Positivists. The first page contains the regular formulae of invocation, and also the prayers addressed to Humanity on that occasion by Mr. Congreve. The curious will here find an example of the manner in which the new religion is penetrated by the old-world phraseology of the Christian Church.

MESSRS. RIVINGTON's new volume of their "Historical Biographies," *The Duke of Wellington*, by R. Waite, is just ready for publication. It contains a portrait of the Duke, eight plans of the principal battles, and three maps.

MR. LEWIS MORRIS has consented to act as honorary secretary of the University College of Wales at Aberystwith. His colleague in the secretaryship is Dr. Evans, of New College, St. John's Wood. Mr. Hugh Owen, who retires from the office of honorary secretary, which he has held since the institution was first established, is now treasurer of the college, conjointly with Mr. David Davies, M.P.

PROF. STOROGENKO, of Moscow, the author of two Russian works on Lyly and Marlowe and on Greene, has been elected one of the vice-presidents of the New Shakspeare Society. He will probably contribute to the society's meetings papers on the authorship of *Faire Eme*, which, in opposition to the late Mr. Richard Simpson, he attributes to Robert Wilson, the writer of the *Pleasant and Stately Morall of the three Lordes and three Ladies of London* (1590), the *Coblers Prophecie* (1594), &c.; on Thomas Nash; and on the history of Shakspeare in Russia.

THE executors of the late Mr. David Laing, LL.D., are having his correspondence and papers arranged with a view to placing them in the hands of a competent biographer, and they are in communication with a gentleman well known in literary society on the subject.

THE friends of Hebrew literature will be gratified to learn that the Rev. J. W. Nutt, M.A., the indefatigable senior sub-librarian of the Bodleian Library, Oxford, is to bring out in January next *A Commentary on Isaiah by R. Elazar (Eli'ezer) of Beaugeni*, an author of the twelfth-thirteenth century, pupil of Rabbeu Shemuel C. Meir, and teacher of R. Berekhyah Hannaqdan. The Preface will contain an account of the French and Spanish schools of commentators. From the scholarship and exactness of the editor—who is favourably known by his editions of the *Two Treatises on Verbs containing Feeble and Double Letters by R. Jehudrah Hayug of Fez*, &c. (London and Berlin, 1870, 8vo), and *Fragments of a Samaritan Targum*, &c. (London, 1874, 8vo)—we may expect a most important addition to our knowledge of a very interesting branch of mediæval literature.

MR. SATCHELL, of Downshire Hill, Hampstead, is gathering for the Dialect Society the local names of British fishes, marine animals, &c., and would be glad to obtain the assistance of naturalists and fishermen in remote districts. Information collected at upwards of a hundred ports and creeks in the United Kingdom will be embodied in this list, which now contains about five hundred words.

IN January next the *Literary World* (Boston: E. H. Hames and Co.), which has been published as a monthly for more than eight years, will be changed to a fortnightly, and will thenceforth appear every other Saturday.

WE understand that the Oxford University Commissioners have come to an important resolution with regard to college scholarships. In recent years their value has greatly increased, as the colleges have thought it necessary to bid against one another for candidates. The Commissioners have intimated their opinion that a general uniformity in value should be aimed at, with a maximum considerably lower than the amount now given in not a few cases. It is doubtful whether such a regulation could be applied to the new foundations of Keble and Hertford.

PROF. DELITZSCH has issued as a University "Programme" an examination of the variants on the Hebrew text of the Complutensian Polyglott, which is in many respects peculiar, and, as being based on manuscripts as yet uncollated, possesses a critical authority. He thinks, however, that he has found the manuscript sources of the text in two Madrid codices.

THE Royal Academy of Arts has just issued a handsomely-printed Catalogue of its library, with a Preface by Mr. S. A. Hart, R.A., the librarian. The Catalogue has been compiled by Mr. H. R. Tedder, the well-known librarian of the Athenaeum Club, and reflects great credit upon his bibliographical skill and accuracy. Not only are the titles given in full and with studious care, but the number and state of the plates in illustrated works are always recorded. The cross-references are extremely full, so that every proper name appearing in the titles, whether of subject, author, editor, engraver, or illustrator, has its own place in the alphabetical arrangement. Under countries and places are given full lists of all works illustrating them; and under each artist's name is collected the literature connected with him. Under the heads of "Catalogues," "Galleries," and "Museums," full information is conveniently put together. The library, which about 1769 consisted of few volumes, grew but slowly until the advent of the present librarian, who has strongly urged upon successive Councils the necessity of making it an important factor in the teaching power of the Academy. It now consists of about 4,500 volumes; and, besides comprising a carefully-chosen collection of the best authorities upon art, is especially rich in the lives of artists, in works upon antiquities and archaeology, costume, and pageants and funeral processions. The history of the Academy, and the works of its members, are well represented. The library is accessible to others than students and members upon a proper introduction.

A VALUABLE legacy has fallen to the lot of the Vienna Goethe Society, in the form of a rich library devoted entirely to Goethe literature. The donor, Herr Walther, had collected over 400 works, rare editions of the poet's writings and publications concerning him, translations of his poems into various languages, &c.

WITH the close of the French Exhibition, what claims to be the smallest book in the world is to be on sale. It is a 128mo edition of Dante's *Divina Commedia*, printed at Padua in 1878; it forms a volume of 500 pages, and measures five centimètres high by three and a half broad. Only 1,000 copies have been printed, and the type has been destroyed. There are in all about 400 editions of the *Divina Commedia*, the largest of which is said to be that published by Mussi at Milan in three folio volumes in the year 1800, so that Italy has produced the largest as well as the smallest edition of her greatest poet. Mr. Pickering issued a two-volume edition in 1822-3, consisting of 394 pages in all, which can be read without spectacles; whereas the new Italian edition can only be read, and that imperfectly, with the aid of a powerful magnifying glass. The *Augsburg Gazette* gives the following particulars of the type employed in the latter. Messrs. Firmin-Didot, of Paris, in 1830, manufactured a smaller type than had ever been used before; but in 1834 this was excelled by an Italian named Antonio

Farina, who produced specimens of steel type, which he called *occhio di mosca*, much smaller and more delicate than that of Firmin-Didot. In the same year O. Wilmant, of Milan, produced a yet smaller type, *milanine*, which, however, was never used. Meanwhile Farina's type was bought by a Milanese publisher, Giacomo Gnocchi, who had a fresh supply cast in 1850, so as to be able to set up five or six leaves at once. In concert with the well-known writer Cesare Cantù, he undertook a microscopic edition of the *Divina Commedia*, printed with these characters; but so many readers and compositors engaged on the work were stricken with blindness or ophthalmia that it was found impossible to complete it, and the project was for the time abandoned. On the death of Signor Gnocchi, he was succeeded in the business by his son, who on March 1, 1873, concluded a contract with Messrs. Salmin Brothers, of Padua, for printing this microscopic edition. The work was pushed on, and completed in time for the Exhibition; but it was never found possible, under any circumstances, to print more than twenty-four or thirty pages a month. The name of the reader, Luigi Busato, is very rightly given on the title-page, as well as that of the compositor, Giuseppe Geche, whose sight has suffered in the execution of his task.

THE first part of a Swiss history for the use of schools and the people, by Hidber, professor at the High School of Bern, has just been published by K. J. Wyss. It embraces the history of Switzerland down to nearly the end of the fourteenth century, and is distinguished by the popular character of its style.

THE celebration of the centenary of J.-J. Rousseau, which lately took place in Geneva, called forth a number of publications, among which *La Famille de Jean-Jacques, Documents inédits* (Extrait du Tome xxiii. du *Bulletin de l'Institut Genève*; Genève: Imprimerie Ziegler), and *Jean-Jacques et le pays Romand* (Genève: H. Georg), are of special interest. They contain extracts from the archives of Geneva, Fribourg, and Bern, which furnish valuable contributions for the history of Rousseau's family and early days, and more especially rectify the *Confessions* in more points than one.

DR. STRICKLER, Keeper of the Records of the Canton of Zürich, has earned great credit by editing those volumes of the collection of the Confederate Recenses that relate to the period of the Reformation. As, however, all the records which he has found in numerous archives could not be incorporated in this collection, he is issuing an *Actensammlung zur Schweizerischen Reformationsgeschichte in den Jahren 1521-1532*, the first volume of which was published a short time ago (Zürich: Druck von J. Schabelitz). The work is to consist of four volumes, and promises, in spite of its containing many unimportant or already known documents, to be a rich mine of historical information.

THE Hunterian Club's issue for its fifth year (1875-6) is nearly ready; it consists of (1) Thomas Lodge's *Rosalynde* (Euphues Golden Legacie, 1590, now first reprinted from the unique copy of the first edition, with the missing four leaves supplied from the second edition); (2) *Robert Duke of Normandy*, 1591 (likewise from the unique original at Britwell); (3) *A Fig for Momus*; (4) a Bibliographical Index to Samuel Rowlands's Works, part i.; and (5) a large Part IV. of the Bannatyne MS. The Council announce that Mr. Edmund W. Gosse's Introduction to Rowlands's Works, and Mr. Sydney J. Heritage's Notes and Index to them, will appear next year. The copy of the spurious cut in the British Museum copy of Rowlands's *Guy Earl of Warwick* will be cancelled as soon as a genuine print of the original title can be found and reproduced.

THE best mode of dealing with the proposed new index to the *Gentleman's Magazine* was dis-

cussed at a meeting of the committee of the Index Society, held last Tuesday, and it was decided to commence operations with the preparation of a complete index to the biographical and obituary notices in the whole series. Those who know the old Index of Names will understand the uselessness of completing that, for there every Smith mentioned in the various volumes is treated as one individual, and 2,411 references are ranged (without distinction of Christian name) in one block under the extremely simple heading "Smith"! The committee also decided to print, as an appendix to their Report, an index of such obituary notices of celebrities who have died during the year 1878 as have been published in the *Times*, *Academy*, *Athenaeum*, *Illustrated London News*, &c.

OBITUARY.

WILLIAM GEORGE CLARK.

THE late Mr. W. G. Clark, whose death on the 6th inst. was recorded in our obituary of last week, was a few years since one of the most conspicuous among the residents at Cambridge. To the influence which he exercised in the university from his position as tutor of Trinity and Public Orator was added the charm of unusual personal popularity. His kindly and genial disposition, his polished manners, and his great conversational powers rendered him a welcome and almost indispensable element in all social gatherings; while his speeches in the Senate House will long be remembered as models of elegant composition and graceful delivery. Firm in maintaining his opinions and bold in expressing them, he yet numbered among his friends many whose tastes and habits of thought differed widely from his own, and there are none in the large circle of his friendship who do not lament his withdrawal from their society and his premature death. Whatever he attempted he did well. In discharging his various functions as college lecturer, as tutor, as Public Orator, he has been equalled by few and surpassed by none; and the grave has closed upon a career of brilliant promise and of performance from which even more abundant results might have been looked for. "His life was gentle," and though the closing years were shadowed by illness and sorrow, he retained to the last his clear intellect, and awaited the end with a firm and constant mind.

Mr. Clark was born in March 1821, and passed the early years of his life at Barford Hall, in the extreme north of Yorkshire, separated only by the Tees from the little village of Gainford, in the quiet churchyard of which he lies buried. He was educated at the Grammar School, Sedburgh, and afterwards at Shrewsbury under Dr. Kennedy. He entered at Trinity in 1840, and became in due course scholar of the college. During his undergraduate career he gained the Porson Prize for Greek verse in 1843, the Browne medals for the Greek Ode and Epigrams in 1842, and for the Greek Ode again in 1843, the other medals on both occasions being awarded to Mr. (now Sir Henry) Maine, who afterwards defeated him in the examination for the Classical Tripos of 1844 and in the subsequent contest for the Chancellor's Medals, on both which occasions Mr. Maine was first and Mr. Clark second. He became a Fellow of the college in 1844, and from that time till the end of 1873 Cambridge was his home. His long vacations were spent in foreign travel, and there were few places of interest in Central and Southern Europe which he had not visited. The results of a tour in Spain in 1849 were recorded in a pleasant volume, to which he gave the name of *Gaspacho* from the Spanish dish so called. In 1856 he was in Greece, and the companion of his travels was the present Master of Trinity, then Regius Professor of Greek. On this occasion his purpose was more definite than that of mere amusement, and his views on various questions of Greek geography and topography were expressed in his *Peloponnesus or Notes of Study and Travel*.

which appeared in 1858. In 1860 the interest excited by the exploits of Garibaldi attracted him to South Italy, and the first volume of *Vacation Tourists* contained a narrative of his adventures under the title "Naples and Garibaldi." In 1861 he was again in Greece, and this time he was accompanied by the present Dean of Westminster. Of his visit to Mount Athos on this occasion he kept a copious journal, which supplied the material for an article in *Macmillan's Magazine* for February 1863, called "From Athos to Salonica." In 1863, in company with his friend Prof. Birkbeck, he travelled in Poland during the time of the insurrection, and wrote an account of what he had seen and heard in the third volume of *Vacation Tourists*. Although he had been so great a traveller from home, Mr. Clark had never been in Ireland till 1868, when he published the results of his observations during a tour in that country in a pamphlet entitled *A Few Words on Irish Questions*.

At a very early period in his career Mr. Clark announced his intention of editing Aristophanes with critical and illustrative notes, a task for which he was eminently well qualified by his sympathy and familiarity with his author. With this object he accumulated notes for many years, and in 1867 went to Italy for the purpose of completing his collation of the MSS. in the various libraries of that country. In the Vatican he met with a German scholar, Herr Adolf von Velsen, of Saarbrück, who was there on the same errand, and whose edition of *The Knights* Mr. Clark afterwards reviewed in the *Journal of Philology* in 1869, where he gave in a condensed form the results of his own experience in examining the MSS. Herr von Velsen was in feeble health, and in consequence had been unable, when at Ravenna, to make as much use as he desired of the famous Ravenna MS. With the generosity of a true scholar, Mr. Clark gave him his own notes, which he had gathered on a previous visit, and the friendship thus casually formed was kept up by correspondence in after years. On his return from Italy in the summer of 1867, Mr. Clark began to put his collections in order, and to write out for the press his notes on *The Acharnians*. His idea at that time was that he could complete his task in about three years, but, either because he found that it was too laborious or because his health had then begun to give way, he first limited his intention to the publication of *The Acharnians* with copious Prolegomena, and finally abandoned even this and broke off his notes abruptly at line 578.

Mr. Clark was ordained by the Bishop of Ely in 1853, but beyond preaching in the College Chapel and before the University, he never undertook any continuous clerical duty, and in course of time, finding that his opinions had undergone such a change that he felt it to be inconsistent for him to remain in his position as a clergyman of the Church of England, he availed himself of the Act of 1870 and resigned his orders. Before taking this step he had written a pamphlet on the *Present Dangers of the Church of England*, and retired from the Public Oratorship, though he still continued to hold the office of Vice-Master of the college, of which he remained to the last a Senior Fellow.

For some years Mr. Clark was a contributor to *Fraser's Magazine*, and he edited the series of "Cambridge Essays," for the first volume of which he wrote on *General Education and Classical Studies*. As a chief promoter of the establishment of the *Journal of Philology* he became one of its editors, and in this capacity contributed to its pages, as he had done to its predecessor the *Journal of Classical and Sacred Philology*, which had become extinct. Of his efforts in verse he only published *A Score of Lyrics*, which appeared anonymously in 1849, and *Andromache: a Poem*, which was printed in *Macmillan's Magazine* for April 1868. In the same periodical for April 1866, on the occasion of the death of the late

Master of Trinity, he wrote "W. Whewell: in Memoriam," and subsequently, in July and August 1872, appeared the lectures on the *Middle Ages and the Revival of Learning* which he had delivered in Edinburgh. In 1858 he edited, with a short Preface, the *Essays of George Brimley*, which he dedicated to the late Prof. Maurice as a memorial of their common friend.

But the work with which Mr. Clark's name will be permanently associated is the so-called Cambridge Shakespeare, which marked an era in Shakespearean literature. The idea of this edition was mainly his own, and with the view of gathering opinions and suggestions upon the plan he and Mr. (now Dr.) Luard issued in 1860 for private circulation the first act of *Richard II.* as a sample of the proposed edition. In the Preface to this specimen they say:—

"For such an undertaking Cambridge offers facilities of which perhaps no other place can boast. In the various libraries, and particularly in that of Trinity College, we have at hand almost all the materials requisite for the task; and among the many residents who have both sufficient leisure and practical acquaintance with the labours of collation, we trust we shall have no difficulty in finding associates in the work."

Ultimately, however, the first volume was brought out in 1863 by Mr. Clark and Mr. Glover, who was then librarian at Trinity; and upon Mr. Glover's removal from Cambridge in the same year his place as co-editor was taken by Mr. Aldis Wright, his successor in the librarianship. The work was completed in the autumn of 1866, and in the meantime the Globe Edition had appeared in 1864, under the same editorial supervision. Subsequently Mr. Clark and Mr. Wright were associated in editing single plays of Shakespeare for the Clarendon Press Series; and in this form they published the *Merchant of Venice* in 1868, *Richard the Second* and *Macbeth* in 1869, and *Hamlet* in 1872. In the spring of 1871 Mr. Clark was prostrated by a severe illness, from the effects of which he never fully recovered; and as one of the consequences he was obliged to leave to his colleague the task of completing the Notes and writing the Preface to the last-named play. In the Michaelmas term of 1873 they resumed their joint labours; but their Notes on the *Tempest* were scarcely begun when Mr. Clark was summoned from Cambridge by the illness of a near relative, and he never returned. Among those who knew him best he has left behind the reputation of an accomplished gentleman and a loyal and generous friend.

HENRY SAMUEL KING.

A LIFE so closely connected with literature during many years as that of the late Mr. H. S. King should not pass away without some recognition from us. The following memoir, written by one who lived in a very close and peculiar intimacy with him, may have interest for more than those who knew him; for the career and character of the man had in them much that was exceptional and remarkable in days which tend to reduce lives to so much of dull uniformity.

Henry Samuel King was born at Lewes on November 15, 1817, and he had therefore just completed his sixty-first year at the time of his death. His grandfather, Mr. King, was the senior partner of the Lewes Bank, of the firm now represented by Messrs. Whitfield, Molyneux and Co. The family was of long standing and good position, a circumstance which stimulated Henry's efforts in no small degree when at a very early age he had to earn his own livelihood and to choose his own career. For his father, having a realised and sufficient fortune, did not enter the bank, and lost the whole of that fortune while his children were still very young. At the age of thirteen Mr. King had to go out into the world to fight his way absolutely alone, with the proverbial half-crown in his pocket.

The boy obtained a junior clerkship in a place of business, and held several other situations

during the next seven years, always with increasing salaries, and with increasing confidence reposed in him, becoming cashier of a large and important firm before he was twenty. The present writer has heard him describe with the greatest simplicity his eager and successful struggles to save out of his small earnings in order to help his family, educate himself, and get on in the world; and the tale seemed to the hearer at once romantic and heroic, though to the narrator it was the record of mere duty, and, as it appeared to him, within the reach of all. At the age of twenty he and his elder brother started on their own account as booksellers at Brighton: the elder, so soon as he could afford it, left the business and took orders; the younger carried on the business alone.

At Brighton and in his then occupation he was able to carry out his self-education more satisfactorily than before. Of course his culture was and always remained deficient on some sides: he knew no language but his own; he was only acquainted through translations with the stores of classical or foreign literature. But his knowledge of English literature was wide and accurate, his reading careful, his memory singularly retentive; while for books—the shrines of literature—he had a real passion and a sort of personal affection. Hence he became a bookseller of a type which is getting rarer each day—one who rises far above the mere tradesman, the friend and literary associate of his customers, who look to him as, in some sense, the judge and critic of his wares. Among the Brighton friends the most conspicuous was Frederick Robertson, who lived on affectionate terms with Mr. King, and made him one of his executors.

In June 1850 Mr. King married Miss Ellen Blakeway, and, becoming by this alliance brother-in-law of Mr. George Smith, he afterwards joined the firm of Smith, Elder and Co., as a partner, and removed his home to the Manor House, Chigwell, Essex.

The firm combined the various, and, as it would seem to an outsider, almost incongruous, businesses of Indian agency, banking, and publishing; but Mr. King found himself equally at home in each branch, and the energy of the two leading partners made both successful. Everyone knows that Smith, Elder and Co. were Thackeray's publishers, and started the *Cornhill Magazine* under his editorship; that they recognised the merit of the Brontës; that they gave Ruskin's earlier books to the world in a manner which satisfied even their fastidious author; were the publishers of Robertson's sermons, the most wide-spread literature of that kind which has ever issued from the press. It would be impossible, and, if possible, invidious, to distinguish the part played by each member of the firm in their excellent work in this or the other departments of their business.

Mr. King's one literary effort, however, must not be passed over; the arrangement and editing of the successive volumes of Robertson was his, and his alone; and it was a task of no common difficulty and delicacy. Robertson was an extempore preacher; he wrote out some of his sermons afterwards, but the MS. draft was not always so good or striking as that which had been delivered; some of his congregation took notes, and when placed in the editor's hands these were found to differ much from each other. The preacher was bold, and might seem, as Faber puts it, now and then "to stray under the shadow of condemned propositions" in expressions which it would not be always fair to repeat, since he had no opportunity of pruning his words—the publication being posthumous—while honesty demanded a faithful rescript. In all this Mr. King's rare memory and his close friendship with the preacher aided him, while his tact and literary judgment combined to produce an example of almost perfect editing. And the work was done quietly, and, as it were, in secret; no editor's name was known: Mr. King effaced himself for his

friend. It is not too much to say that, but for him, Robertson's words would have been lost when the voice that uttered them ceased.

In 1860 Mrs. King died, and in the autumn of 1863 Mr. King married Harriet Eleanor, daughter of Admiral and Lady Harriet Baillie-Hamilton. Some foolish gossip appeared in certain provincial papers, and were copied by the London press a year or two ago in reference to this marriage. They contained a minimum of truth, with a maximum of idle padding. It is enough here to say that the marriage was thoroughly approved by both families, and that few men have lived on more cordial terms with a wife's relations than Mr. King continued to do to the hour of his death.

In 1868 the partners in the house of Smith, Elder and Co. separated, and Mr. King retained the Indian business in his own name, the publishing business going with the name of the firm to the senior partner. Mr. King bound himself not to engage for three years in the business carried on by the other partner. At the time of the separation Mr. King had no intention of becoming again a publisher. That each business stood better alone is plain from the extension of both when severed from the other, and from the great impulse given to Messrs. King's own trade and to the publishing business, which they sold, when these were finally divided last year. And at first Mr. King's attention was solely given to the extension of his bank and agency. Branch firms were opened in Calcutta, Bombay, Southampton, Liverpool, and Portsmouth; business relations were extended in all parts of the world with a success as marked as it was rapid. But books were Mr. King's delight, and books he must have as a relaxation, which proved, however, to be very hard work. As soon as he was able to do so under the terms of his agreement, he resumed business as a publisher, the first book issued being Mr. Stopford Brooke's volume *Freedom in the Church of England*. The Robertson family soon transferred Mr. Frederick Robertson's books to their old friend, the original editor, and the business increased with great rapidity and success.

It must, however, be admitted that a more critical literary judgment would have peremptorily rejected many books, which, interspersed with some of permanent value, swelled the earlier lists. There was little time for criticism remaining to a man who was extending a large mercantile trade, and some trivial books introduced at first were difficult to eliminate when better material flowed in, and some small part of the work of the last six years was to undo the mistakes of the first two. Yet the undertaking was steadily prosperous. It could scarcely be otherwise when it was the darling occupation of the head of the firm. Other branches were his business: this was his pleasure. Every minutest detail of the production of a book was in his hands; the smallest deviation from his ideal was a serious trouble to him. During the two years of ill-health which preceded the sale of the publishing department—ill-health, which necessitated long residency abroad, and during which the larger part of his business went its machine-like way almost independent of his own control—every letter was full of particulars about every book; though all the while he placed an almost boundless confidence in the judgment of those to whom he had confided the literary charge of the department. Increasing illness made his medical advisers insist on less work, but he could not take less, so long as he was a publisher; of that business, while it was his, he must hold every thread; and with that, therefore, he parted to take still the keenest interest in it, and greet the issue of every new work as though it had been the birth of a fresh child of his own.

For some months past Mr. King had been in far better health, and, though he had virtually retired from active participation in business, was able to be most days at Cornhill. He underwent an

operation a fortnight before his death, from which he was rapidly recovering, and had been moved from Chigwell to London last Saturday. On Sunday afternoon his medical man had just left him doing well, when without one moment's warning he died an instantaneous and painless death. The cause was aneurism of the heart, which he had long known was his danger, and was unconnected with the recent operation.

The very fact of such a career shows a man of no ordinary force of character; and few ever approached Mr. King without being aware of at least some features of it—great urbanity to all who were first introduced to him, unwearied attention to business, a large power of generalisation combined with extraordinary attention to details, an almost unexemplary memory, and an iron will. And under the urbanity this iron force was very apparent: not all were able to penetrate below it. Those who did so found an extremely tender heart, a most loving and loveable nature, a high and stern sense of duty for himself and others, with great toleration bursting through a seeming and impatient intolerance.

His power for work and his memory "of relentless tenacity" were points which ever stood out with greater prominence. Summer and winter he breakfasted at half-past seven, and was at work in the City soon after nine. He rarely left his office before six, and the Saturday half-holiday was often his busiest time. He remembered verbally letters written years before, and the exact terms of forgotten agreements; he could tell the precise page in a volume at which a quotation could be found. In business matters he was strict, even to hardness; away from business tender, at times to the verge of weakness, but never beyond the verge. He was a Tory and a Churchman, but had his one great ambition for political life been fulfilled, his party would have found him far from manageable, and his creed, if closely examined, was deficient in more than one orthodox article.

As he retired from active business, he entertained the hope that he might take part in City life, and few keener disappointments were ever his than the absolute veto of his physician on his candidature last year for the post of Alderman of his Ward. He threw a singular veil of bright poetry over City life, as over business; the stir of commercial work, the rule of a great commercial city, lost in his eyes all that was vulgar and sordid; the real romance in his nature was satisfied in very unexpected fields.

Few men ever so distinctly, with this one exception, realised their ideals. He wished to restore the fortunes of his family and to found a great commercial house, and he did so; then he looked the sudden death which he knew would be his bravely in the face, and made all arrangements by which no capital would be withdrawn from the firm, and all would go on precisely as he left it. Ready for the end, he yet hoped for and expected a longer life, when he found the severe operation through which he passed was safely over. His last letter to his son, written on his own birthday, two days before his death, sums up in one sentence his view of life:—"We talk of going to Pall Mall to-morrow, leaving here about twelve. I am, indeed, thankful for such progress, after such a severe operation. I shall hope there is in me yet some power that may come out usefully for others before I lay the burden finally down."

And then the letter is full of minute, careful, vigilant direction, as of one in vigorous health. He was a brave man, to be respected by many, to be feared by many, to be loved as he was loved by those who knew him best.

In Mr. W. R. Cooper, whose death took place at Ventnor, on November 15, Assyrian and Egyptian research has lost an active and useful supporter. The Society of Biblical Archaeology in great measure owed its foundation and early success to

his exertions, and it was he who started the lectures on Assyrian and Egyptian grammar and decipherment delivered in London for three successive years, as well as the valuable series of volumes known as the *Records of the Past*. His influence with Messrs. S. Bagster and Sons brought about the publication of several well-known volumes on the languages and monuments of Egypt and Assyria. Besides stimulating others, Mr. Cooper published some works of his own, among which may be mentioned three lectures on *The Resurrection of Assyria*, *The Heroines of the Past*, and *Egypt and the Pentateuch*, published in 1875, two interesting papers on *Serpent-worship* and *The Myth of Horus*, read before the Victoria Institute, and *An Archaic Dictionary, Biographical, Historical, and Mythological, from the Assyrian and Egyptian Monuments and Papyri*, published in 1876. Mr. Cooper began life as a designer of carpet-patterns, but his friendship with the late Mr. Bonomi brought him into the Soane Museum, and he was for several years the indefatigable Secretary of the Society of Biblical Archaeology, which he had assisted Dr. Birch in founding. His exertions on behalf of the Society and of the Assyrian and Egyptian classes brought on the illness which compelled him to spend the last two years of his life at Ventnor, and to which he finally succumbed at the early age of thirty-five.

MR. JAMES M'NAB, Curator of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, died in that city on the 19th inst., aged sixty-eight.

THE French papers announce the death, at the age of seventy, of M. Hippolyte Lucas, Librarian of the Arsenal; and, on the 15th inst., of M. Nicolas de Khanikoff, the learned Orientalist and traveller, aged fifty-nine.

THE eminent German actor Georg Hiltl died on the 16th. Hiltl was not only an excellent Shakspearean actor, but he had also acquired some fame as an author of historical romances.

NOTES OF TRAVEL.

CAPTAIN ROUDAIRE is once more engaged in an exploration of the Shot-el-Jerid, and of the country which separates it from the Mediterranean. He is accompanied by two civil engineers, and we presume their report as to the feasibility of flooding the Algerian Sahara will be accepted as final. Captain Roudaire travels at the expense of the French Minister of Education.

THE editor of *Petermann's Mittheilungen* has received from Dr. Emin Bey a meteorological journal kept at Mtesa's capital and vocabularies of the Kiganda and Kinyoro languages, containing about 900 words and phrases. The journal will be published in the *Mittheilungen*, the vocabularies in the *Zeitschrift für Ethnologie*. Dr. Emin looks upon Kinyoro as the older of the two languages. It is purer than Kiganda, which contains many words imported from Zanzibar, and Ki-Karagwe is a dialect of it. The Wahuma have a language of their own, but also speak the languages of the countries in which they reside. On a sketch-map accompanying these communications, *Troglodytes niger* and *Pithecus erythaceus* are shown to extend north to the neighbourhood of Massinde. Both animals avoid the swampy region at the mouth of the Katonga.

THE November number of *Petermann's Mittheilungen* contains, *inter alia*, a paper on German Missionary Stations in the Province of Canton, with a map showing the dialects spoken in that part of China; a Report on Signor D'Albertis' voyage up the Fly River, in New Guinea, also with a map; and a notice on earthquakes on the north coast of New Guinea, by M. Miklukho-Maclay. The Russian traveller, who is at present at Sydney, recruiting his health, remained at his old station from June 28, 1876, to November, 1877, during the whole of which period he was most kindly treated by the natives. They gave

him an account of a tremendous earthquake which had taken place in 1873, and traces of which were still visible. When he left the coast the volcanoes on Vulcan and Lesson Islands were in a state of eruption.

In compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives at Washington, Prof. F. V. Hayden has recently drawn up a succinct Report of the Geological and Geographical Surveys undertaken under his supervision during the past ten years, together with a list of the works and maps published and in preparation. This Report, which is accompanied by a map showing the progress of the surveys, will suffice, we should hope, to convince even the most parsimonious legislator in the United States that, notwithstanding occasional instances of duplication of work with Lieut. Wheeler's party, never was money better or more profitably laid out than that which has been expended by Prof. Hayden.

We learn from the Australian papers that Mr. Macdonald, a well-known Queensland pioneer, has been engaged for nearly a year on the exploring expedition in the extreme west of that colony; he has also been some distance into South Australia, and, so far from encountering any difficulties from want of water, he reports that he found fresh-water springs everywhere in the country west of the Mulligan.

We hear that Mr. F. A. A. Simons, who for some time was engaged in exploring-work in Eastern Africa, chiefly in the neighbourhood of Lake Nyassa, is now occupied in natural-history and hypsometrical investigations in the almost inaccessible Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, in Magdalena, the northernmost State of the Colombian Republic. Mr. Simons has already crossed this unexplored region at an elevation of some 17,000 feet above the sea, and he proposes shortly to cross it again at its highest point, which is believed to reach an altitude of about 22,000 feet. It may be added that this particular portion of the United States of Colombia is so little known, and is looked upon as so difficult of exploration, that the Government recently offered a handsome prize to anyone who should succeed in making his way across the Sierra de Santa Rosa to the coast.

It will be remembered that the Samoan Government a short time ago ceded to the United States a fine harbour to be used as a coaling-station. It is now said that the Americans intend to colonise portions of the island, and that for this purpose large purchases of land have lately been made there.

DR. CREVAUX, whose successful expedition across French Guiana and over the Tumac-Humac range to the Amazons has been more than once alluded to in the ACADEMY, is now engaged in fresh explorations, under the auspices of the Ministry of Public Instruction at Paris and the Government of French Guiana. After conferring with M. van Sypestein, the Governor of Dutch Guiana, he left Paramaribo on August 8, intending to ascend the Oyapock River in French Guiana to its source, and, after traversing the Tumac-Humac range for a second time, to endeavour to reach the upper waters of the Surinam, by which he proposed to return to Paramaribo. He was kindly furnished with special letters of recommendation from the Dutch authorities to their agents in the interior and also to the principal chiefs of the Bosch tribes, who are found in great numbers on the banks of the Surinam and the Maroni rivers. The latest intelligence from Dr. Crevaux is contained in a letter to the Governor of French Guiana, written on September 3 from a point on the Oyapock one day's journey below the *embouchure* of the Camopi, which had been reached with great difficulty in consequence of excessively heavy rains, which rendered navigation both troublesome and dangerous. Dr. Crevaux appears to have altered his original programme, and, after crossing the Tumac-Humac chain, he will probably try to

make his way southwards by some unknown waterway, such as the Parou, which runs parallel to the Yary into the Amazon. He is much afraid, however, that there will be no dry season this year, and in that case he fears that there will be so much difficulty in navigating the affluents of the Amazon that he will be obliged to wait for a dry season before attempting to descend them.

MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

THE last number of the *North American Review* contains, as usual, a large proportion of political and social papers. The exceptions are Dr. Osgood's interesting if not very new account of Leopardi, Schopenhauer, and Hartmann, under the title of "Pessimism in the Nineteenth Century," and M. Renan's chapter on "The Emperor Hadrian and Christianity." This latter is evidently the beginning of M. Renan's new volume, *L'Eglise*, the last, as it will be remembered, ending with the death of Trajan. In an English dress what M. Renan writes appears robbed of some of its grace and beauty, but even so the paper is one of great interest. Here is the sketch of Hadrian's character:—

"He had, with all his faults, a ready, open, original mind. He loved Epictetus, and understood him, without, however, feeling compelled to follow all his precepts. Nothing escaped him; he wished to be informed of everything. Free from the exclusiveness and prejudice which deprived the genuine Roman of any knowledge of the rest of the world, Hadrian had a taste for what was foreign, which he enjoyed and lightly criticised. He was especially attracted to the East. He saw and was amused by its impostures and charlatanism. He became acquainted with all its absurdities; he manufactured oracles, compounded antidotes, and ridiculed medicine. He was, like Nero, a man of letters and an artist on the throne. His capacity for painting, sculpture, and architecture was surprising, and he composed pretty verses; but his taste was not pure; he had his favourite actors, and peculiar preferences. His learning, in fact, was superficial, his architecture theatrical. He accepted no religion, no philosophy, nor did he deny any of them. His fine powers of mind vacillated like a weathercock, the sport of every wind; he may be judged by the graceful adieu to life which he muttered a few moments before his death:—'*Animula vagula, blandula*.' All his researches ended in a jest, all his enquiries in a smile. Even the empire rendered him only half-serious; his easy, unconstrained manner was that of the most variable and unstable man who ever lived."

M. Renan goes on to tell the story of the revival of art and letters that came in with Hadrian, and of the emperor's passion for restoring old ruins, "recalling the sort of resurrection of the dead which took place in our own age, when in a moment of universal benevolence everything was restored, Gothic churches were rebuilt, pilgrimages fallen into disuse were re-established, feast-days and ancient usages were once more observed." The two most interesting restorations were that which the emperor attempted at Jerusalem, and that which he carried out at Athens: the former opposed both by Jews, who disliked being under obligations to a pagan, and by the Christians, who would have seen in the rebuilding of the Temple a falsification of prophecy; the latter resulting in the rise of the Christian apologists, who were simply "philosophers," as the word was understood at Athens, converted to Christianity. It was only under Hadrian that it became possible for Christianity directly to appeal to Rome "to deliver it from the false position in which it was placed." Where Trajan and his predecessors would simply have ignored such petitions, Hadrian's open undecided mind encouraged the presentation of them. Accordingly we find two Athenian writers, Quadratus and Aristides, offering to Hadrian elaborate defences of Christianity, which, though they are not extant, we know to have been highly valued in the early ages of the Church. Quadratus even offered to show the emperor persons still living who had been healed or raised from the dead by

Jesus: the emperor, says M. Renan, "would have been pleased to see some of these venerable centenarians . . . but he would not have been convinced. He had witnessed many miracles, and had only drawn from them the conclusion that there are an infinite number of incredible things in the world." But it is certain that Hadrian began to have a genuine respect for Christianity; and there seems some foundation for the Christian belief of the third century that the *Hadriana*, or basilicas built by the emperor, had really been intended by him for the use of the new religion.

THE *International Review* contains little that is remarkable, except, perhaps, a comprehensive and well-arranged article on "The Government Library at Washington," a library which already includes 340,000 books and 120,000 pamphlets. The purpose of the article is, in a certain sense, immediate—viz. to induce Congress, "which has so liberally provided marble palaces for the current business of post-offices and custom-houses in so many cities of the country," to furnish proper accommodation for these rapidly-increasing stores of books. Prof. P. G. Tait, of Edinburgh, who is committing himself more and more deeply on the side of the current orthodoxy, answers Mr. Froude's recent articles on Science and Theology with a good deal of petulance. It may be added that Mr. Wilkie Collins contributes to this number perhaps the very silliest story that he ever wrote: a story without probability, or interest, or character, or style.

In the *Atlantic Monthly* Mr. W. W. Story has a little poem in his well-known manner, to be added (as its title says) to his old contributions to a complete *Roba di Roma*. Mr. Charles Eliot Norton writes a first article on Florence, a city of which the interest is found by Americans, as by all the world, inexhaustible; and the other papers in the number, without calling for special notice, are all eminently readable.

PARIS LETTER.

Paris: Nov. 16, 1878.

Publications relating to the eighteenth century have been multiplying for some time past, and whether they make us better acquainted with the political and social state of France, or throw light upon her relations with foreign Powers, they possess a very present interest for us. Three months ago it was the *Memoirs of Fersen*; a month since the Duc de Broglie's book on *The Secret of the King*; now it is the *Mémoires et Lettres du Cardinal de Bernis*, edited by M. F. Masson (2 vols., Plon). This work has all the importance of a revelation. Bernis was Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1755 to 1758—that is, precisely at the outbreak of the Seven Years' War, which proved so fatal for France. He has always been accused of having been one of its authors, and the exact reason of his disgrace was never known. We see by his *Memoirs* that he was hostile to the war and ill-disposed toward the Austrian alliance, and that his disgrace was due to the prudence which led him to wish for peace, while M^{de}. de Pompadour, Choiseul, and the incapable generals whom she protected, wished for the continuation of the war. We see also in these *Memoirs* that it was Frederick II. and not Louis XV. who took the initiative in the rupture between France and Prussia, and that thus the Seven Years' War was not due, as has been so often repeated, to the caprices of the Royal Mistress. Bernis long led a worldly life; he wrote light verses; he was widely known for his witticisms; he was a friend of Voltaire, who called him *Babet la Bouquetière*; he was the *protégé* of M^{de}. de Pompadour; and he has long been regarded as a type of the frivolity of the eighteenth century. His *Memoirs* and letters, on the contrary, set him before us as a man full of good-sense and judgment, of almost austere character, a little vain, it is true, but upright in intention, devoted to his country

and his duty, judging with infinite independence and breadth of mind the men and women of his time, men of letters and *grands seigneurs*, and entertaining no illusion as to the vices of the Government and the country. M. Masson falls into the common mistake of all editors by indulging in excessive laudation of his hero, but Bernis comes out a far greater figure from the study of his Memoirs and his letters. M. Masson rightly says that there is still a whole world of discoveries to be made with regard to the eighteenth century, and that as a rule attention has been paid only to its most frivolous aspects; and he rightly attributes to Messrs. de Goncourt the honour of having been among the first to deal profoundly with the eighteenth century, and to paint it in its true colours. Their studies on Mme. de Pompadour, on Mme. du Barry, on Marie Antoinette (Charpentier), which have just been republished, are historical works of great merit, in which they gave way less than in their romances to their affectations of style and thought.

The more one studies the eighteenth century, the more one sees that we must look to it for the true origin of all modern questions. The great drama of the Revolution long blinded men's eyes, and the general tendency was to see in it a violent interruption of history, after which all begins afresh. Friends and enemies have seen in it a wholly new thing, sublime or detestable, without relations to the past, while in reality it was only a crisis produced by elements which had been long at work. What is true as regards the internal condition of France is none the less so with respect to general European politics. The rupture of the former balance of power, the ruin of the old diplomacy, that alliance of the three so-called "Northern" Courts which is sometimes regarded as the result of the wars of the Revolution and the Empire, are facts already existing in the eighteenth century. The Eastern Question and the Polish Question constituted the starting-point. M. A. Sorel has just brought out this fact in a most lucid book, full of interest and life, *La Question Orientale au dix-huitième siècle* (Plon). The audaciously-aggressive policy of Catherine II., the cynically-greedy policy of Frederick II., the piously-hypocritical policy of Maria Theresa—each is analysed and brought out with the subtle precision of a diplomatist, and the dash and picturesqueness of a writer of romance. Russia wished to extend her empire in the East; but there her ambition clashed with that of Austria. Austria found herself grappling in Germany with the growing power and ambition of Prussia. Frederick II. devised the partition of Poland as a means of reconciling these three rival ambitions in one common work of conquest. He converted the three rivals into three accomplices. But the agreement thus created for the execution of an act of violence tore up, as M. Sorel says, the foundations of established authority. The nations saw that there was one thing which was supreme over the law of States and sovereigns. It was the force of States and the interest of sovereigns.

"Dès l'origine," he says in conclusion, "les crises orientales sont devenues des crises vitales pour toute l'Europe, et la triple alliance, née en 1772 de la question d'Orient et fondée sur le partage de la Pologne, a formé le nœud de la politique européenne. Cette alliance résultait, non de la communauté des intérêts, mais de l'opposition des convoitises. Les intérêts bien entendus la condamnaient; elle dura parce que la convoitise est infinie et s'irrite sans cesse en se satisfaisant. Dès 1795, il n'y avait plus de Pologne à partager; ce fut le tour de la Turquie et de l'Allemagne. On peut, dès à présent, prévoir le moment où l'alliance, ayant tout absorbé autour d'elle, se retournera contre elle-même plutôt que de se dissoudre, et subissant jusqu'au bout ses conséquences des causes qui l'ont fondée, trouvera dans son propre sein les éléments de nouveaux partages. Soulevée par la question d'Orient, la question polonaise semble résolue depuis 1815. Voilà un siècle que l'on travaille à résoudre la question d'Orient. Le jour où l'on croira l'avoir résolue,

l'Europe verra se poser inévitablement la question d'Autriche."

We recommend this book, which is full of instruction, to all statesmen and historians.

It is curious to read, on the subject of this Eastern Question which is troubling the minds of all men in our days, what Lamartine said of it in 1839. M. de Ronchaud, a faithful friend of Lamartine's from first to last, has had the happy idea of collecting in two volumes, under the title of *La Politique de Lamartine* (Hachette), the most important political speeches and writings of the poet-statesman, and has prefixed an eloquent Preface. Lamartine was an energetic opponent of the policy of the *status quo* in the East. The counter-plans which he supported were, it is true, only vague and grandiose conceptions, but he showed a prophetic vision which seemed another form of his poetical gifts when he said that the *status quo* in the East meant Russia at Constantinople and seizing the whole of Persia and the whole of Asia Minor, and England gaining perpetual possession of the Mediterranean by means of Egypt; and when he urged that France should play the first part in the Mediterranean by pushing Russia back toward Asia, where she has a mission of civilisation to accomplish. France at the present day can only play the part of a counsellor in the East, and the *status quo*, as Lamartine foresaw, has brought Russia, if not to Constantinople, at least to the city gates.

France, kept aloof for a time by her recent reverses from an active policy in the affairs of Europe, seeks to console herself by thinking of the influence which she is still able to exercise by the force of the ideas and the principles which she represents. We fear that, if she trusts too implicitly to M. Fouillée in his book on *L'Idee moderne du Droit en Allemagne, en Angleterre et en France* (Hachette), she may form some illusions as to the grandeur of her task. M. Fouillée is a brilliant writer, and as a thinker ingenious to subtlety. He has clad Chauvinism in metaphysical formulas. According to him the Germans conceive no right save that of force, the English none save that of utility; the French alone have the abstract conception of ideal right. But what is the basis of this ideal right? On this point the explanations which M. Fouillée vouchsafes are extremely obscure; and it is very difficult to conceive the idea of right otherwise than as a transformation of the idea of general interest. To confound utilitarianism with the doctrine of individual interest is a very superficial mode of dealing with the question. The interesting feature of M. Fouillée's book is the effort which he makes to reconcile the different conceptions formed by the three nations, and to show that they have after all only regarded three different aspects of the same thing.

But let us leave these regions, political rather than literary, for the more peaceful domain of pure letters. Here we find a book which, without possessing the same novelty for English as for French readers, will certainly be favourably received in England as well as in France. I refer to the first part of M. Stapfer's book on *Shakspeare et l'Antiquité* (Fischbacher). Great geniuses are like those lofty mountains which we cannot learn to know by taking a general view of them and once climbing their summit, but which must be approached successively on every side, and explored in their minutest details. In Shakspeare's case more than in any other, there are always discoveries to be made, something new to be said; for the impersonality and variety of his work, our almost complete ignorance as to his person and his life, make the man himself as well as his work a subject of unending controversy. Among the critics who have hitherto dealt with Shakspeare there are but few who possess in the same degree as M. Stapfer a sympathetic comprehension of his genius combined with such complete independence of judgment. There are few, again, who are so completely acquainted with the works of

Shaksperian criticism and scholarship, and who have been able to use them with so much ease without sacrificing anything of the literary character of their work. M. Stapfer is equally removed from the blind fanaticism of a Victor Hugo and an Ulrici, or from the depreciatory spirit of a Rumelin or a Benedix; he falls neither into learned dulness nor into empty phrase-making. He does not content himself in his book with analysing the plays of Shakspeare which are borrowed from antiquity, with showing the sources on which Shakspeare drew, the characters which he painted, the elements from which he formed the grave Romans of *Julius Caesar* or *Coriolanus*, or the fanciful and humoristic Greeks of *Troilus and Cressida*: he finds occasion likewise for a host of delicate and subtle remarks on the psychology of Shakspeare, and for a study on his degree of knowledge, on the nature of his anachronisms, on his mode of regarding antiquity, on his political instincts and sentiments, which help the reader in no small degree to penetrate into one aspect of Shakspeare's genius. He has especially determined with great precision the character of Shakspeare's work in relation to his predecessors and contemporaries, pointing out the traces of a reaction against the excess of Classicism produced by the Renaissance in the authors of the sixteenth century, a return to the tradition of the national drama and to nature. It is by the moderation and justice of his opinions, as well as by the exquisite literary form with which he has invested them, that M. Stapfer's book will hold a distinguished place in Shaksperian literature.

M. Havet's book on *Les Origines du Christianisme*, of which the third volume, *Le Judaïsme*, has just appeared (C. Lévy), is likewise recommended to us by its style, but not by the moderation of its opinions. The first two volumes dealt with Hellenism. There M. Havet, who is a very eminent humanist and man of letters, was on his own ground, and he showed with great talent, although with some exaggeration, what elements of Christian sentiment and Christian thought were already to be found in Pagan civilisation. Here he studies Judaism, and examines the fundamental Jewish ideas which, passing through a Greek medium, formed the Christian religion. On this point M. Havet lay under a twofold disadvantage; he knows neither Hebrew nor German, as he admits himself with perfect frankness. So he has scandalised with his theories not only believers, but also all those who are *au courant* with German criticism and who adopt its theories. He denies the authenticity of all the prophetic books, and maintains that they were composed in the second century B.C., long after the Pentateuch, which dates from the time of Esdras. The chances are very much in favour of M. Havet being wrong; but we must not complain when a man who is not perhaps perfectly acquainted with the latest results of science, but who is at the same time a man of serious, keen, and sagacious mind like M. Havet, comes forward from time to time and upsets received opinions in science. Scholarship and criticism have a tendency to form stereotyped opinions, dogmas and prejudices, which their holders would never think of revising unless they were forced to it. I do not mean to hint for a moment that scholars are wrong in placing the Prophets in the time of the Kings; nay, I believe that they are right. But M. Havet will force them to support with proofs yet more incontestable what they were perhaps too much disposed to accept as *ipso facto* evident.

Studies on the history of religions now possess more than ever the gift of attracting the attention of scholars and the general public. The brilliant and laborious band of Orientalists which has its centre at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes is continuing its publications on the religions of Asia. While M. Regnaud is publishing a commentary on the Upanishads as a contribution to the history of philosophy in India, M. Bergaigne gives us a new instalment of a great work on *La Religion védique*

d'après les Hymnes du Rig Vêda (Vieweg). He has already published the part relating to the Sovereign Gods and Morality in the Vedic Religion. He now deals with the elements of the Vedic religion in mythology and worship, and his minute analyses on the rôle of Agni, of Soma, of earth and sky, of offerings and prayers, will certainly go far to throw light on the difficult and controverted question of the course of religious development in mankind at large. It will show how superficial is the opinion of those who insist on seeing fetishism in all primitive religions, even in the Vedic. This is the view maintained by M. Girard de Rialle in his book, which is certainly full of curious facts, entitled *Mythologie comparée* (Maisonnette). What constitutes the chief interest of this book is not the philosophical part, which appears to us too absolute and very questionable, but the mass of information brought together with respect to the religions of Africa and America. As yet, however, we have only the first volume before us. It is in the second that we shall come to the Semitic and Indo-European mythologies.

Permit me, in conclusion, to recommend a charming little *Histoire Ancienne des Peuples de l'Orient*, by M. Van den Berg (Hachette), which is like your Primers, and which in 220 pages gives a summary, very clear and quite on a level with the present state of science, of the history of Egypt, Assyria, Persia and Phœnicia. Bibliophiles will also be very glad to learn that M. Quantin is continuing to add to his magnificent series of reprints. Those of *Valérie*, by M^{me}. de Krudener, of the *Contes de Voisenon* and the *Contes de Boufflers*, are worthy of the earlier volumes. The *Contes* in particular present us with a living picture of the eighteenth century.

G. MONOD.

SELECTED BOOKS.

General Literature.

- BOKHARI DE DJOHORE. Makôta Radja-Râdja, ou la couronne des rois. Traduit du malais par A. Marre. Paris: Maisonneuve.
- FULDA, K. Leben Charlottens v. Schiller, geb. v. Lengefeld. Berlin: Gebr. Fackel. 6 M.
- HAYWARD, A. Selected Essays. Longmans. 12s.
- HENSEL, E. Die Familie Mendelssohn 1729-1847. Berlin: Behr. 16 M.
- JANITSCHKE, J. Die Gesellschaft der Renaissance in Italien u. die Kunst. 4 Vorträge. Stuttgart: Spemann. 4 M.
- KEMBLE, Fanny. Records of a Girlhood. Bentley. 31s. 6d.
- KNAUER, V. William Shakespeare, der Philosoph der sittlichen Weltordnung. Innsbruck: Wagner. 6 M.
- LAVOIX, H. Histoire de l'instrumentation depuis le XVII^e siècle jusqu'à nos jours. Paris: Firmin-Didot.
- LEGOUVÉ, E. Nos filles et nos fils. Paris: Hetzel. 7 fr.
- RAWLINSON, W. G. Turner's Liber Studiorum: a Description and a Catalogue. Macmillan. 12s. 6d.
- REISMANN, A. Zur Aesthetik der Tonkunst. Berlin: Müller. 4 M.
- SMITH, E. William Cobbett. Sampson Low. 25s.

History.

- DUM, G. Die spartanischen Königslisten. Innsbruck: Wagner. 1 M. 20 Pf.
- FULDA, H. Das Kreuz u. die Kreuzigung. Eine antiquar. Unterschg. Breslau: Koebner. 9 M.
- GODIN, P. de. Dyalogon de conjuratione Porcaria. Aus e. Königsberger Handschrift, hrsg. v. M. Perlbach. Greifswald: Bamberg. 1 M. 20 Pf.
- HENRICI DE BRACON de Legibus et Consuetudinibus Angliæ. Vol. I. Ed. Sir Travers Twiss. Rolls Series. Longmans. 10s.
- HERTZBERG, G. F. Neueste Geschichte Griechenlands von der Erhebung der Neugriechen gegen die Pforte bis zum Berliner Frieden. Gotha: Perthes. 14 M.
- KLEIN, J. Die Verwaltungsbeamten der Provinzen d. römischen Reichs bis auf Diocletian. 1. Bd. I. Abth. Bonn: Strauss. 8 M.
- MATHIEU, D. L'ancien régime dans la province de Lorraine et Barrois, d'après les documents inédits (1698-1789). Paris: Hachette.
- PIERRE, V. Histoire de la République de 1848. 2^e partie. La Présidence. Paris: Plon. 16 fr.
- PRYCE, John. The Ancient British Church: an Historical Essay. Longmans. 6s.
- WERUNSKY, B. Der erste Römischer Kaiser Karl IV. (1354-1355). Innsbruck: Wagner. 7 M. 20 Pf.
- ZOLLER, M. Latium u. Rom. Forschungen üb. ihre gemeinsame Geschichte u. gegenseit. Bezehn. bis zum J. 338 v. Chr. Leipzig: Teubner. 10 M.

Physical Science.

- ADAN, H. Ph. Le monde invisible dévoilé: révélations du microscope. Paris: Maresq aîné. 10 fr.
- BORTTIG, O. Die Reptilien u. Amphibien v. Madagascar. 1. Nachtrag. Frankfurt-a-M.: Winter. 1 M. 50 Pf.
- GIRTANNER, A. Der Alpensteinbock (*Capra Iber, L.*). Trier: Lintz. 2 M.

- PAGENSTECHER, A. Allgemeine Zoologie od. Grundgesetze d. thier. Bau u. Lebens. 3. Thl. Berlin: Wiegandt, Hempel & Parey. 10 M.
- RODWELL, G. F. Ethna: a History of the Mountain and its Eruptions. C. Kegan Paul & Co. 9s.
- SCHLELEN, H. Die magnet- u. dynamo-elektrischen Maschinen, ihre Entwickl., Construction u. prakt. Anwendg. Cöln: Du Mont-Schauberg. 10 M.

Philology, &c.

- BECKER, P. Ueb. e. 3. Sammlung unedirter Henkelinschriften aus dem südlichen Russland. Leipzig: Teubner. 3 M. 60 Pf.
- HERWERDEN, H. van. Emendationes Aeschyleae. Leipzig: Teubner. 1 M. 20 Pf.
- RICHTER, G. Quaestiones Aeschyleae. Berlin: Mayer & Müller. 1 M. 70 Pf.
- SERVII Grammatici qui feruntur in Vergilli carmina commentarii. Rec. G. Thilo et H. Hagen. Vol. I. Fasc. 1. Leipzig: Teubner. 14 M.
- THEOMIS Smyrnaei expositio rerum mathematicarum ad legendum Platonem utilium. Rec. E. Hiller. Leipzig: Teubner. 3 M.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LIBRARY AT ST. WULFRAM'S, GRANTHAM.

Hampstead: November 18, 1878.

In a room over the south porch of St. Wulfram's Church at Grantham is a library of some two hundred and fifty chained volumes, of sufficient interest to deserve more attention than it appears at present to receive. It comprises no less than ten works printed before 1516. There is, first of all, a very early (undated) copy (capitals rubricated by hand) of the *Imago Mundi*, composed in 1414 by Petrus de Alyaco, Cardinal of Cambray. This is a treatise on geography and astronomy with diagrams. At the end are certain tracts of John Gerson. 2. Disputations of various Doctors, printed at Venice in 1472: a very fine copy. 3. *Sermones quadragesimales fratris Leonardi de Utino, ordinis fratrum predicatorum*, printed at Paris in the seventeenth year of Louis XI. (1478). The capitals are beautifully executed by hand in red and blue. 4. "*Scotus super tertio sententiarum*—impressum Venetiis mandato et sumptibus—domini Octaviani Scoti, civis modociensis, tertio nonas Februarii 1497, per Bonetum Locatellum Bergomensem." 5. *Catholicon fratris Johannis Januensis ord. predic.*, printed at Lyons in 1503. The library contains many Dominican works. This order had a large house in Grantham: the well-known "Angel" inn belonged to them. 6. Gratian's *Decretals*, printed at Paris in 1505. This is now without its cover. 7. The Commentary of Nicolas de Lyra (Basle, 1506). 8. *Consilia Nicolai abbatis Monacensis* (Lyons, 1507). This retains its original binding. 9. *Decretals of Gregory IX.*, printed in red and black type, at Paris in 1514. This is in its original covers, as is also 10. The *Tabula generalis ac mare magnum Scotice subtilitatis* of Antonius de Fantis, printed at Venice in 1515.

Of works printed between 1515 and 1600 there are a considerable number. I may mention (1), *Novus orbis regionum ac insularum veteribus ignotus* (Basle, 1555), a most interesting collection of treatises giving accounts of the discoveries of Aloysius Cadamustus, Christopher Columbus, and Americus Vesputius; also Cortes' narration of his conquests, addressed to Charles V.; also accounts by various travellers of the Holy Land, Sarmatia, Tartary, Muscovy, Prussia, and Turkestan. It contains a letter of Emanuel, King of Portugal, to Leo X., upon the Portuguese occupation of India and Malacha (*sic*), proposing to take possession of the mouth of the Red Sea, and to close it to Mohammedan commerce, in conjunction with the forces "presbyteri Johannis, potentissimi christicolarum domini" who, as the king states, had sent an embassy to the Portuguese commander at Vabulis, a city not far from Goa, to offer his assistance. This most interesting book has lost both its covers and is in several pieces. (2) Origen's works (Basle: "ex officina Frobeniana," 1536). (3) Several volumes (in black-letter) of law cases from the second to the twenty-second years of Henry VI., term by term (1555). (4) A black-letter English translation of part of the History of Thucydides. (5) The ecclesiastical history of the Magdeburg Centuria-

tors, 1574, in several chained volumes. (6) Dionysius Charchusianus on the Gospels (Cologne, 1533), with a fine pictorial title-page. (7) Martinus Chemnicus, an examination of the Council of Trent, printed at Frankfurt in 1585, with a beautiful title-page representing the Council in session. (8) Samuel Fox on the Apocalypse, dedicated to Archbishop Whitgift.

The library further contains a number of works interesting to students of theology, editions of the works of most of the Fathers, of the Reformers and of their Catholic adversaries. I will only name one more book, and that for its title's sake: H. More, D.D., *A Modest Enquiry into the mystery of iniquity* (1664).

I have said enough to show the very great value of the collection. The library is the property of the clergy of St. Wulfram's Church, and its present condition is not creditable to a body of learned men. Many of the most valuable books are without their covers, and some have lost pages in consequence. In one corner of the chamber there lies a small heap of black-letter printed pages and odd book-covers, some of them mediaeval.

Let us hope that the restoration of this porch, now in contemplation, may include a painstaking reparation of these most interesting volumes.

G. GILBERT SCOTT.

SEPULCHRAL MASKS.

Malahide Castle, Co. Dublin: November 16, 1878.

I see in your number of the 9th inst. an article upon ancient masks by Mr. A. S. Murray, who gives many parallel instances of the discovery of sepulchral masks similar to those described by Dr. Schliemann.

When I was at Lisbon some years ago, I was told that a gentleman there had a gold one, and I made every attempt to see it. My friend the late lamented Dom Augusto Soromenho had seen it and vouched for its authenticity. However, I did not succeed, as the owner, who wished to sell it, entertained the absurd idea that being shown would detract from its value. I feel satisfied that it must have been a similar one to those described by Prof. Otto Benndorf.

TALBOT DE MALAHIDE.

CLEISTOGAMIC FLOWERS.

6 Park Village East, N.W.: Nov. 18, 1878.

Will you allow me to correct an inaccuracy in the abstract of my paper, read at the last meeting of the Linnean Society, which appears in the ACADEMY for November 16? Instead of saying that I was "disposed to regard" homocleisto-gamic and heterocleisto-gamic flowers "as having arisen, one by degradation, the other by a rudimentary form of the organ;" what I did say was that although at first disposed so to regard them, further observation convinced me that both kinds of closed self-fertilised flowers have originated by degradation. The reasons for this conclusion, derived from the structure of the flowers of *Impatiens*, *Ononis*, &c., are given at length in the paper in question. ALFRED W. BENNETT.

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

- MONDAY, Nov. 25.—8 P.M. Society of Arts: "Mathematical Instruments, I." by W. Mattien Williams.
8.30 P.M. Geographical: "On Usambara, East Africa, and the adjoining Country," by the Rev. J. P. Farler.
- TUESDAY, Nov. 26.—8 P.M. Anthropological Institute: "Evils arising from the Use of historical national Names as scientific Terms," by A. L. Lewis; "American Illustrations of the Evolution of New Varieties of Men," by Prof. Daniel Wilson; "Left-Handedness," by Dr. H. Muirhead.
8 P.M. Civil Engineers: "On the Heating and Ventilating Apparatus of the Glasgow University," by Wilson P. Philpott.
- WEDNESDAY, Nov. 27.—8 P.M. Society of Arts: "The Land of Midian," by Capt. R. F. Burton.
8 P.M. Literature: "On the Earthly Paradise of European Mythology," by C. F. Keary.
8 P.M. Telegraph Engineers: "Multiple and other Telegraphs at the Paris Exhibition, 1878," by Major C. E. Webber.
- THURSDAY, Nov. 28.—8 P.M. Meteorological: Lecture.
8.30 P.M. Antiquaries.
- SATURDAY, Nov. 30.—4 P.M. Royal: Anniversary.

SCIENCE.

Manual of the Geology of Ireland. By G. Henry Kinahan, M.R.I.A. With Illustrations and Map. (C. Kegan Paul & Co.)

IRELAND, with all her grievances, can hardly complain of having been neglected by geologists. Not to go beyond the past twelvemonth, we may point to no fewer than three works which have been published on the geological structure of this island. First came a sumptuously-printed quarto from Bonn, entitled *Aus Irland*, in which Dr. Von Lasaulx, the genial and accomplished Professor of Mineralogy at Breslau, described a vacation-tour which he and his colleague, Prof. Ferdinand Römer, had undertaken with the view of learning something about Irish geology. A few months later, and just on the eve of the meeting of the British Association in Dublin, Prof. Hull, the Director of the Geological Survey, most opportunely presented us with a work on *The Physical Geology and Geography of Ireland*—a work which, by its title, not less than by its style, may be fitly placed by the side of Prof. Ramsay's charming volume on *The Physical Geology and Geography of Great Britain*. And now, after the interval of only a few brief months, Mr. Kinahan comes forward with a handsome volume on precisely the same subject.

The appearance of this new work has not, however, been rendered a whit the less welcome by the publication of the earlier volumes. Indeed, on placing the three works side by side the impartial critic is forced to admit that the best wine has been kept until the last. Of the three writings, Mr. Kinahan's is unquestionably the most comprehensive; and of the three writers, Mr. Kinahan can certainly lay claim to the longest acquaintance with Irish geology. His work, indeed, is in very large measure the outcome of personal acquaintance with the country, acquired during his long service on the staff of the Geological Survey of Ireland.

It was for many years the intention of the late Sir Richard Griffith to write a treatise on the geology of his native land—an intention, however, which was always thwarted by pressure of official duties. What Sir Richard found himself unable to accomplish Mr. Kinahan has been bold enough to undertake. Nor would it be easy to find anyone better fitted for the work. For more than a quarter of a century he has been a practical student of geology, spending his days in deciphering the enigmas of the Irish rocks. He writes, therefore, with authority, and though we may not always agree with his theoretical views—such as his explanation of the origin of river-valleys—we always feel sure of the trustworthiness of his statements when dealing with matters of fact. His volume is, unquestionably, a distinct gain to our geological literature—the work of a man who possesses great knowledge of his subject, and is capable of imparting his knowledge with clearness and force. It is a book which in many respects reminds us not a little of Mr. H. B. Woodward's excellent treatise on the *Geology of England and*

Wales, to which it would, indeed, form a very fit companion.

In describing the structure of Ireland Mr. Kinahan commences with the oldest known rocks, the Cambrian strata, which form, so far as we know, the foundation-stones of the country. Here, of course, we find figures of the famous *Oldhamia*. The author does not express any doubt as to the organic nature of the markings comprised under this generic name; but it is only fair to remind the reader that some very eminent palaeontologists are by no means easy on this point. Thus Prof. Ferdinand Römer, only last year, referred to the two species of *Oldhamia* in these terms:—"Nach meiner auch auf die Beobachtung von Dünnschliffen gegründeten Ansicht lediglich unorganische, durch Fältelung der Schiefer bewirkte Bildungen" (Leonhard and Geinitz's *Neues Jahrbuch*, 1877, p. 72).

Among the Cambro-Silurian fossils we find an engraving of the new star-fish from Wexford, which Mr. Baily, the eminent palaeontologist of the Irish Survey, has dedicated to the author of this work under the name of *Palaeasterina Kinahani*.

In the unsettled state of opinion as to the age of the rocks of the south-western highlands, we naturally turn with interest to what Mr. Kinahan has to say on so vexed a question. A glance at the geological map which illustrates his work is sufficient to show that, in the S.W. corner, it differs markedly from some other maps of recent date. The "Old Red Sandstone" has, in fact, disappeared. As the series has no defined upper limit, but shades off imperceptibly into rocks of true Carboniferous age, Mr. Kinahan feels justified in placing them in the Lower Carboniferous series. On the other hand, the Dingle or Glengarriff beds, which have been separated by the Geological Survey as a distinct group, have lost their integrity and independence, and are now merged in the Upper Silurian system, though still retaining a distinctive tint upon Mr. Kinahan's map. They thus revert to the position in which they were originally placed by Sir R. Griffith. Prof. Hull, after a recent re-examination of the country, has frankly admitted that on this point the Survey was in error, and that Griffith's views are, after all, triumphant (*Nature*, October 10, 1878). It will, therefore, be seen that the "Cork Rocks" are now partitioned between the Carboniferous and the Silurian groups.

When Mr. Kinahan passes from the sedimentary to the metamorphic and eruptive rocks of Ireland, he strikes us as being a little fanciful in the choice of his nomenclature. Metamorphism is with him either *metapeptic*, *paroptetic*, or *methyloitic*, according as the rocks have been "stewed" or "baked" or chemically acted upon; while eruptive rocks may be either *catogenic* or *anogenic*, according as they are formed at great depths or near to the surface. The petrological termination *-yte*, which he has employed, according to Prof. Dana's suggestion, in some of his previous writings, is now laid aside in favour of the more familiar termination *-ite*; the rock-names and the mineral-names being, therefore, no longer distinguished by any difference in the shape of their tails.

It is when Mr. Kinahan comes to describe the origin of valleys that he diverges most conspicuously from the views of most of his brethren of the hammer in this country. But as he has already published a work specially devoted to the subject, and as this work has been duly noticed in these columns, it is needless to revive the question in connexion with the present volume. He still seems inclined to give too little value to the effect of water, and too much value to the effect of fissures or breaks in the strata. He fortifies his argument, however, by appeal to parts of Western Ireland with which he is intimately acquainted, and which are not familiar to most of our geologists who belong to the meteoric school.

Much of the most interesting matter in Mr. Kinahan's volume has gravitated towards the end. His last section, on "Economic Products," is worthy of the attention of all who are interested in the wealth of Ireland. We do not remember to have seen so full an account of the mines, minerals, and quarries, since the publication of Sir Robert Kane's well-known work. There can be no question that the future prosperity of Ireland depends not so much upon any extension of political privileges as upon the economic development of her mineral-deposits and other natural resources; upon the extent to which scientific intelligence is brought to bear upon their utilisation; and upon the energy with which manufacturing industry is promoted.

F. W. RUDLER.

Der Ursprung der Sprache. Von Ludwig Noiré. (Maintz: Zabern; London: Trübner.)

THIS is a remarkable book. It is written in a singularly clear and lucid style, rare in all languages, but more especially so in German, and is full of stimulating suggestions. The author, already known as a philosophic writer, is a follower of Geiger's theory on the origin of speech; but he points out the insufficiency and incompleteness of his master's views, and supplements them by a theory of his own, which has the merit at once of novelty and probability. Briefly put, it comes to this: the roots of language express action, and these roots, the primeval words and stuff of speech, are the product of common action on the part of a number of men. When working together at a common object, men give utterance to certain rhythmical cries or sounds, which are, as it were, called forth by their work, and seem, therefore, to be its expression. The cries of sailors when hauling a rope or pulling the oar, the shouts of savages when attacking an enemy, are illustrations of what Prof. Noiré supposes to have been the beginnings of spoken language. When once such sounds had been associated with the action which excited them and the object upon which the action was directed, language had been created; it only remained for the memory to make the association permanent. Geiger fell short of the truth from referring the origin of speech to the individual; whereas language is essentially the creation and creator of society, and only to be ex-

plained by the sympathy that exists between man and man.

Prof. Noiré leads up to the full statement of his theory by a review of the opinions held by ancients and moderns on the origin of language, and the gradual clearing of the ground that these successive hypotheses have effected. First of all we have the old Greeks with their question whether language was a growth or an invention, then a chapter on Plato's *Kratylus*, and then we pass from Herder and Hamann to Schopenhauer and Wilhelm von Humboldt, and finally to Geiger, whose parable is taken up and finished by the author himself.

The best confirmation of a theory is its naturalness, and its best proof its making us ask ourselves, after hearing it, "Why did we never think of this before?" Prof. Noiré's theory answers both requirements, and he may, therefore, be congratulated upon being one of that select band of thinkers who have originated ideas. The study of language, like the study of man, has suffered from being treated as though language were a unique and isolated phenomenon; as long as we exclude the lower animals from our investigations our conclusions will be as one-sided and fallacious as those of a student of the human body who is unacquainted with comparative anatomy. I have written elsewhere:—

"Can the emotion that prompts the savage to shout be said really to differ from the sense of power and life that makes him turn his shout into a significant word? . . . Surely language originated in the desire to speak, in the pleasure felt in the very act of inventing sounds; and to limit such invention, such desires, to a single body of men is as reasonable as to hold that the manifold songs of different species of birds have all developed out of some original one, or at most out of two or three."

To draw a line of distinction between the song of a bird and human speech at its outset is to shut one's eyes to half the truth.

While, however, admitting to the fullest the great value of Prof. Noiré's contribution to the difficult question of the origin of language, I cannot accept it as an explanation of the whole problem. It is, of course, natural for the discoverer of a new idea to push it further than others will allow, to force it to explain too much. It seems to me that the cries in which the first men gave relief to their feelings when engaged in a common work were but a part of the material out of which speech has been formed. So far as I can see, they do not exclude the influence of onomatopoeia or the use of gestures and gesticulation. We have only to turn to the parrot, the monkey, or the child to discover how strong is the instinct of imitation implanted in both man and beast; and in the child we may see an image of primitive man. No doubt the attempt to imitate natural sounds will be as imperfect as the attempt to express thought by means of speech, and the imitation will be as much coloured by subjective phantasy as thought itself. But in onomatopoeia, in the imitation of natural sounds, we cannot, I believe, refuse to see one of the elements of human language.

When Prof. Noiré comes to deal with the technical question of etymology and the connexion of roots, he shows, like Geiger,

the want of a special philological training. Excellent as is his theory, his illustrations of it are frequently by no means happy. The scientific philologist shudders inwardly when he finds the roots *stha* and *dha* connected together, or the *s* which marks the nominative singular referred "to the Sanskrit article *sa*." Like Geiger, too, Noiré seems to look upon the roots of the cultivated Aryan languages as the elements of a primitive speech, whereas they can only be the roots of civilised dialects which have left their unknown and unknowable first period of history far behind them. How, again, can he say that "the verb still remains the kernel of the sentence, as it formed originally the whole sentence, on which its other members only developed through germination and growth," when, as a matter of fact, the existence of a verb in the various languages of mankind is the exception rather than the rule?

But Prof. Noiré would be judged as a philosopher and not as a philologist, and it is as a philosopher that he has brought philology, what it seldom receives from the hands of philosophy, a contribution of high value. Even apart from this, his book is stimulating and suggestive, tending to set in motion those trains of thought which always place old things in a new light, and often lead to new ideas. Its keynote is the quotation he has prefixed to it from Geiger: "Language has created reason; before language man had none."

A. H. SAYCE.

SCIENCE NOTES.

ANTHROPOLOGY.

The Wisdom-Teeth and the Evolution of Man.—"It appears," says Mr. Darwin in his *Descent of Man*, "as if the posterior molar or wisdom-teeth were tending to become rudimentary in the more civilised races of man." To test the soundness of this conclusion, Prof. Mantegazza has carefully examined the rich craniological collection in the National Museum of Anthropology at Florence, and has published the results of his investigation in the form of an elaborate paper, which occupies the greater part of the last number of his excellent *Archivio per l'Antropologia*. Setting aside those skulls which were too old or too young or too imperfect to be useful in the investigation, the professor has studied 1,249 skulls, of which 844 represented modern highly-civilised races, and 277 modern inferior races, while the remaining 128 belonged to Romans, Etruscans, Phoenicians, and other nations of antiquity. He finds that the wisdom-teeth are more frequently absent in the superior than in the inferior types of mankind; the exact proportion being 42.42 per cent. in skulls of the higher races, against 19.86 per cent. in the lower races. This is, of course, quite in accordance with Mr. Darwin's views. Mantegazza finds, however, that atrophy of the third molar occurs less frequently in the higher than in the lower races: namely, in 10.90 per cent. of the former, and in 20.58 per cent. of the latter. Putting all the abnormalities together, it appears that in the lower races the abnormal and the normal cases are practically equal; the figures being 50.54 per cent. normal to 49.46 abnormal. The case is very different, however, in the higher races, where we find as high a proportion as 62.91 of abnormal against 37.09 per cent. of normal teeth. With respect to absence and to atrophy of the third molars, the ancient crania stand intermediate between the high and the low races of modern times; thus the ancient series exhibits

27.34 per cent. of skulls in which the wisdom-teeth are absent, and 18.41 per cent. in which they are atrophied. Another vexed question in connexion with this subject refers to the number of fangs by which the wisdom-teeth are implanted in the jaw. Mantegazza's results show that the third molar possessed three roots in 51.35 per cent. of the skulls of modern high races, in 45.20 of modern low races, and in 46.43 per cent. of ancient types. Teeth with four roots are rather more frequent in skulls of modern high races than in any others which were examined; and in like manner wisdom-teeth with two roots are more common in these skulls. On the other hand, a single root occurs more frequently in crania of the lower races. The very rare, if not unique, case of a wisdom-tooth with five roots was observed in a modern skull of high type. In the lower jaw the third molar has almost invariably two roots, irrespective of ethnic differences; but occasionally in the higher types of skull four roots were observed. On the whole, Prof. Mantegazza's patient investigation of this large series of skulls quite substantiates Mr. Darwin's views, and induces the Professor to conclude his paper by remarking that it is by no means a wild conjecture to suppose that at a period more or less remote the third molar may disappear from the human jaw. Mantegazza's researches are briefly referred to by Mr. Darwin in a foot-note on page 20 of the second edition of the *Descent*; but the paper itself, entitled "*Il terzo molare nelle razze umane*," has only just been published.

The Colour of Human Hair.—Among the physical characteristics upon which the anthropologist relies in the discrimination of the several modifications of mankind, the colour of the hair is undoubtedly one of the most constant. And yet but little is really known respecting the cause of the differences in colour, and the distinctive characters of the various capillary pigments. It is, therefore, with satisfaction that we point to a paper on this subject by Mr. H. C. Sorby, which appears in the current number of the *Journal of the Anthropological Institute*. Whatever subject Mr. Sorby takes up, he is sure to throw light upon it by his originality of treatment. The paper before us describes some researches in which he has endeavoured to isolate the pigments of the hair, and to subject them to chemical and spectroscopic scrutiny. He concludes that hair is a colourless horny substance tinted in different specimens by three, or possibly four, distinct pigmentary bodies. Ordinary solvents, such as water and alcohol, have no action on the pigments, since these are protected by the horny matter. Sulphuric acid, more or less dilute, appears to be the best medium for separating the colouring principles. By the action of such a reagent it is of course possible that decomposition may be effected, and products thus obtained which are not originally present in the hair. Mr. Sorby, however, is far too practised an experimentalist to be led astray by mistaking a product for an educt. He obtains from different kinds of human hair a reddish, a yellow, and a black pigment. Possibly the red, which is an unstable body, may pass into the yellow by a process of oxidation. Very red hair is characterised by the presence of the red constituent, unmodified by other pigments; dark-red hair contains also some of the black colouring matter; golden hair has less of the red and more of the yellow principle; in sandy-brown hair the black and red constituents are associated with a large proportion of yellow matter; in dark-brown hair the black pigment increases at the expense of the others; while in black hair this dark colouring substance completely overpowers the associated bodies. It is notable that Mr. Sorby found in some very black hair of a negro just as large a proportion of red pigment as in a very red hair of European origin. We may, therefore, safely conclude that if this negro should have failed to develop the black pigment his hair would have

been, not white, but as bright a red as that of any red-haired European.

Osteology of the Achinese.—The opening paper in the last number of the *Archivio per l'Antropologia* is an elaborate memoir by Dr. Riccardi, entitled "Studi antropologici intorno ad uno scheletro Accinese." So little is known of the Achinese that this paper forms an important contribution to the ethnology of Sumatra. The interior of Achin, in the north of the island of Sumatra, is inhabited by people who differ from the neighbouring Battas or Battaks, and are regarded by some authorities as having been produced by a mixture of Malay and Battak elements. An Achinese skeleton, certainly the first which had ever reached Italy, has been presented to the Museum of Anthropology at Florence. This skeleton has been minutely studied by Dr. Riccardi, who publishes the details of his investigation in the paper before us. The cranium has a cephalic index of 76.24, belonging therefore to the subdolichocephalic group of Broca, or to the orthocephalic of Huxley. The only skulls from Sumatra with which Riccardi has been able to compare his measurements are seven skulls described by Dr. Barnard Davies in his valuable *Thesaurus*, but not one of these is Achinese. Among these Sumatran skulls, however, the one with which the Achinese most closely agrees is that of a Battak. The author also compares the skull with a number of Javanese, Dyak, Papuan, Malay, and Chinese crania. The measurements of the Achinese skull differ considerably from those of the Malay, but come close to the Dyak, and also show some agreement with the Chinese, from which, however, there are considerable departures in the character of the orbits, the facial bones, and the upper jaw. It is, of course, unsafe to found any general conclusions as to the ethnic characters of the Achinese from studies founded only on a single skull and skeleton, which may, after all, exhibit individual peculiarities rather than the typical characteristics of the race.

Prehistoric Remains in the Rhineland.—Some interesting remains have been brought to light by the explorations of Dr. Mechlis, and are described by him in a recent number of the *Correspondenz-Blatt der deutschen Gesellschaft für Anthropologie*. The tumuli which he has examined are situated on the southern side of the river Eis, which falls into the Rhine near Worms. An old road running from Wattenheim to Ramsen divides the collection of burial-mounds into two groups, differing in size, in construction, and probably in date. In the tumuli on the west of the river the bodies are unburnt, and the associated objects are exclusively of bronze. On the eastern side, however, one of the graves has yielded an iron sword, while others in the same group have been found to enclose stone cists containing sepulchral urns with ashes that testify to the practice of cremation; in one of the cists was found a bronze fibula decorated with coral and pearl, and possibly of Etruscan origin. Not far from these tumuli are some curious heaps of old iron slags, evidently resulting from the imperfect smelting of the local iron-stone. No less than 400 waggon-loads of these slags were lately removed for road-mending. Dr. Mechlis regards them as relics of prehistoric iron-smelting; and suggests, in fact, that they were left by that pre-Roman people who are represented in the tumuli by the man with the iron sword.

BOTANY.

PROF. B. FRANK communicates to the *Botanische Zeitung* (No. 40) an account of a few short investigations on parasitic fungi, conducted with the view of determining whether they are the cause, or merely the concomitant, of certain leaf-stains on which they occur. In the cases examined by him he succeeded in producing the stains by sowing and cultivating the fungi in question on the fresh leaves. The fungi experimented with were *Isariopsis pusilla*, and species of

Ramularia and *Cercospora*; of none of these was the life-history at all well known, and the short sketches given are of considerable mycological importance.

DR. MORITZ TRAUBE continues in No. 42 of the *Botanische Zeitung* the discussion on the mechanical theory of cell-growth—already engaged in by Sachs, De Vries, and the author.

DR. C. F. NYMAN has published the first part (*Ranunculaceae—Pomaceae*) of a *Conspectus Florae Europaeae*.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—(Wednesday, November 6.)

H. W. BATES, Esq., F.L.S., F.Z.S., President, in the Chair. Mr. Waterhouse exhibited a specimen of *Chauliognathus excellens* (Telephoridae), a new beetle from New Granada.—Mr. H. T. Stainton exhibited a new horn-feeding *Tinea* (*T. orientalis*) which had been reared by Mr. Simmons, of Poplar.—The Rev. H. L. Gorham exhibited some rare British beetles taken in the neighbourhood of Horsham, Sussex.—Mr. Goss exhibited specimens of a rare dragon-fly (*Cordulia Curtisi*) from Christchurch, Hampshire.—Mr. Meldola exhibited a male specimen of the moth *Erebus odoratus*, from Jamaica, possessing large tufts or brushes on the hind legs, which were considered as probably scent-secreting organs.—Prof. Wood Mason exhibited drawings and made remarks on the flower-simulating Mantidae.—Mrs. Randolph Clay exhibited a living specimen of a beetle, *Zopherus Brêmei*, from Yucatan, worn as an ornament.—Sir Sydney Saunders exhibited specimens of *Blastophaga Peenes*, Linn., employed in the process of cuprification, received from Mr. J. Lichtenstein, of Montpellier; also specimens of *Sycophaga crassipes*, West., from the sycamore figs of Egypt, together with certain apterous associates.—The secretary read a communication from the Board of Trade with reference to the damage done to the corn-crops in the neighbourhood of Mariopol by swarms of the beetle *Anisoplia austriaca*. A sub-committee was appointed to draw up a Report on the same.—Miss E. A. Ormerod read a paper on *Psila rosae*, the well-known insect producing the so-called "rust" in carrot-crops. She advocated the use of a phenol preparation for the destruction of this pest.—Mr. C. O. Waterhouse read a paper containing "Descriptions of New Telephoridae from Central and South America."—Sir Sydney Saunders communicated a paper "On the Habits and Affinities of *Sycophaga* and *Apocrypta* from the Sycamore Figs of Egypt."—Mr. Distant communicated "Descriptions of New Species of Hemiptera-Homoptera."

ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—(Thursday, November 7.)

C. D. E. FORTNUM, Esq., V.-P., in the Chair. At this the opening meeting of a new session, the Chairman alluded to the hospitable reception that had been accorded to the Institute at the meeting at Northampton, and the great interest of the places that had been visited in that historic and well-favoured district. The death of Mr. David Laing, at a ripe old age, was spoken of at some length, and his many antiquarian attainments touched on; his friendship with Sir Walter Scott was an interesting link with the past.—The Rev. R. S. Baker read a paper upon "The recent Exploration of the Roman Camp at Irchester, near Wellingborough." From the beginning of June last up to the present day, these careful researches had been personally conducted by Mr. Baker, and he exhibited some of the fruits of his labour to the meeting—viz., a large collection of Roman antiquities, including human hair, coins, pottery, fresco-painting, and military weapons of iron, which latter were partly accounted for by the ironstone district in which they had been found.—Mr. Ready exhibited a beautiful gold embossed repeating watch of the time of Queen Anne; a collection of late Roman finger rings found in London; and a fine example of an inscribed silver ring of the time of Henry III.—Mr. Hartshorne exhibited a MS. catalogue of the library of Lund Church, 1578.—Sir J. Markham sent a rubbing of an Arabic inscription from the island of Cyprus.—Miss Simson exhibited a pair of satin mittens, early eighteenth-century.

NEW SHAKSPEARE SOCIETY.—(Friday, November 8)

F. J. FURNIVALL, Esq., Director, in the Chair. The paper read was by Mr. P. A. Daniel, on "The Times or Durations of the Action of Shakspeare's Plays: Part I.—The Comedies." Mr. Daniel took these in the order of the Folio, and, telling shortly how many scenes of each play were comprised in one day's action, and what intervals, if any, must be supposed between the successive days, then summed up the result in this way:—"The time, then, of *As You Like It* may be taken as ten days represented on the stage, with such sufficient intervals as the reader may imagine for himself as requisite for the probability of the plot:—Day 1. Act I., sc. i. Day 2. Act I., sc. ii. and iii., and Act II., sc. i. [Act II., sc. iii.]. Day 3. Act II., sc. ii. [Act III., sc. i.]; an interval of a few days—the journey to Arden. Day 4. Act II., sc. iv. Day 5. Act II., sc. v., vi., and vii.; an interval of a few days. Day 6. Act III., sc. ii.; an interval—indefinite. Day 7. Act III., sc. iii. Day 8. Act III., sc. iv. and v.; Act IV., sc. i., ii., and iii.; and Act V., sc. i. Day 9. Act V., sc. ii. and iii. Day 10. Act V., sc. iv. Two scenes of the play—Act II., sc. iii., and Act III., sc. i.—are placed, within brackets, out of their actual order in this table. The first must be referred to day No. 2, the second to day No. 3 [see the analysis]. Looking to the time of the scenes, they are out of place: the author seems to have gone back to resume these threads of the story which were dropped while other parts of the plot were in hand." Many curious inconsistencies in the mentions of time, seasons, and parts of the day were pointed out, but Mr. Daniel absolved Shakspeare from the confusion in the *Merry Wives*—where Falstaff's second adventure takes place on the morning of the same day in which his first adventure had taken place in the afternoon—by supposing that some manager had rolled two scenes into one, and altered two or three of Shakspeare's notes of time. In the discussion which followed, attention was called to the change in the present meaning of the sailor's glass—half-an-hour—from Shakspeare's glass or hour-glass. And it seems as if his "pilot's glass" in *All's Well*, II., i., was even a two-hour glass.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.—(Friday, November 8.)

LORD LINDSAY, M.P., President, in the Chair. Among the presents received special attention was drawn to a copy of the *Sidereal Messenger*, which had been presented to the society by Mr. Burnham, of Chicago, at the desire of Mr. Ranyard, to whom he had first presented it on the occasion of the late Eclipse Expedition. The copy was said to be the only complete or nearly complete one in England, and to be more perfect than any of the copies in the public libraries of America.—Mr. Gill reported on "The Progress of the Reductions in Connexion with the Ascension Expedition to observe the Opposition of Mars." He had applied to most of the principal observatories at home and abroad to assist him by determining the places of the stars near which the planet passed, and he had received a very hearty response to his applications. The comparison of the observations from fourteen observatories of precisely the same stars, all observed about the same epoch, showed much larger discordances than might have been expected. There was a difference of 3" of arc between the mean of the right ascensions observed at Washington and observed at Oxford, and it became an interesting question to determine the origin of this discordance. He intended to issue a circular requesting the observatories to make test observations for determining personal errors depending upon the magnitudes of the stars. In concluding his account of the work of reduction which had been accomplished, Mr. Gill said that he gave at present only the deduced correction of the assumed parallax, but would not state the assumed parallax, as there was a form of criticism which was useless, although it was unfortunately too frequent—namely, the criticism of the result according as it agreed or disagreed with preconceived notions of what the result ought to be.—Mr. Penrose read a paper on his observations of the total eclipse of the sun on July 29 last. He exhibited a large drawing of the corona as seen by him from a station near Denver, Colorado. He had devoted his attention chiefly to the upper part of the corona, and especially to the rays near the north pole of the sun, which appeared to have a structure which had reminded him of spun glass. That part

of the drawing which depended on his own sketches corresponded very well with the evidence of the photographs which had been taken.—Dr. Schuster read a paper on his observations of the same eclipse, made at Las Animas, in South Colorado. He had intended to use a spectroscope with a fluorescent eyepiece, but unfortunately the cell of it had been damaged in transit, and he had been obliged to use the spectroscope in the ordinary way. He noticed that as the eclipse proceeded he was able to see further and further into the violet end of the spectrum; and, as other observers had made the same remark, he thought that possibly there might be some condensation of aqueous vapour going on during the eclipse, which might cause the atmosphere to become more transparent to rays of short-wave length. He had perceived the corona shortly before the beginning of totality, and had made some spectroscopic observations of it, fixing especially one pretty bright line in the green. He thought that polariscope observations were likely to furnish further information with regard to the constitution of the corona. There seemed to be no doubt that there was a place a little above the sun's limb where the polarisation was strongest. According to theory, polarisation ought to increase gradually outwards; but in fact it soon reached a maximum, beyond the area of which it was found to decrease in intensity. He accounted for it by supposing that beyond the area of maximum polarisation a condensation of the particles might take place so that the light was dispersed according to the ordinary laws of reflection. With regard to the shape of the corona, he wished to point out that it was symmetrical in reference to an axis which did not coincide with the sun's axis; and he mentioned the differences which he had found in different eclipses. Mr. Ranyard expressed his doubts of the possibility of determining the position of the axis of symmetry with the precision spoken of by Dr. Schuster. He had spent some time in orienting the photographs and drawings of the corona for the society's eclipse volume. The best-oriented photographs were those of the corona of 1871; but even in the case of these there would probably be an error of a degree or more. The next best oriented photographs were those of the corona of 1860; but with the exception of these two eclipses he should be sorry to speak of the correctness of the orientations of the axis of symmetry within 5°.—Mr. Neison read a paper "On Newcomb's Correction of Hansen's Value of the Secular Acceleration," in which he suggested that Newcomb had given too much weight to the evidence derived from the oldest of the known lunar eclipses, which rather disagreed with that of the succeeding ones, and that by omitting it the correction of the acceleration would bring it sensibly nearer to its theoretical value.—Mr. Ranyard read a note "On the Presence of Particles of Iron in the Atmosphere," and related some experiments made during his return voyage from America for gathering such particles by means of glycerine-plates. He also showed a photograph of the oxygen spectrum presented to the society by Dr. Henry Draper, of New York, and drew special attention to a group of four lines in the oxygen spectrum, which coincided with great exactness with four similar bright lines in the solar spectrum. Mr. Christie asked how this was to be reconciled with the announcement of Prof. J. C. Draper that he had found sixty-five dark lines in the solar spectrum which corresponded with oxygen lines; and a discussion ensued respecting the value of the evidence on both sides.—At the close of the meeting attention was drawn to a rare phenomenon which would be visible on November 12, 1879, from the planet Mars—a transit of the earth and moon across the sun's disc—and the circumstances connected with it were mentioned in some detail. The last transit of the kind took place in November, 1800; the next to follow will occur in May, 1905.

PHYSICAL SOCIETY.—(Saturday, November 9.)

PROF. G. C. FOSTER, V.-P., and afterwards Prof. W. G. Adams, President, in the Chair. Prof. W. G. Adams explained a simple appliance, made by Mr. S. C. Tisley, for exhibiting the coloured bands due to interference with thick plates. The bands due to regular reflection and refraction were produced by two thick plates, nearly parallel to each other, and fixed in a brass box, with rectangular apertures on its flat faces, so that the light fell on the first plate at an angle of

60°. The elliptical interference bands due to the scattering or diffusion of light at a point on the front surface of one of the plates were shown by means of a precisely analogous arrangement, except that the inclination of the plates to each other was somewhat greater; in this case the interference bands formed by regular reflection fall in another direction, so that they are not received by the eye. Prof. Adams pointed out that this instrument would form a convenient means of obtaining polarised light in cases where the length of a Nicol's prism is objectionable.—Prof. W. F. Barrett exhibited and explained Edison's microtasmeter and carbon telephone. He referred to Du Moncel's early observations and Clérac's plumbago rheostats, and he stated that Edison was probably the first to apply the diminished resistance of carbon under pressure to a practical use. He uses compressed lampblack, a button of which may be formed as follows:—The wick of a paraffin lamp having been cut so that it smokes, a quantity of lampblack is formed in the chimney; the lower portion, which has the more intense black colour, is collected from time to time, and all brown particles must be carefully removed, since they offer a greater resistance. The mass is compressed into a disc about the size of a sixpence, crushed, passed through a fine sieve, and again compressed, and this operation may be two or three times repeated in order to attain to perfect uniformity. The carbon button rests on a smooth metallic surface in connexion with a binding screw, and a similar conducting surface rests upon it leading to a second binding screw. A strip of hard rubber 1 in. long, $\frac{1}{4}$ in. wide, and $\frac{1}{16}$ in. thick, is supported vertically above it, its upper end being attached to a fine screw worked by a tangent screw with graduated head. The whole is enclosed in a heavy conical brass box. Prof. Barrett suggested that the apparatus should be inverted, because the weight of the strip on the button is found to prevent the needle of the galvanometer returning at once to zero. It was shown that the hand at some distance caused a considerable deflection, and Prof. Barrett stated that in a still room the instrument becomes so sensitive as to be almost unmanageable. By replacing the hard rubber by a strip of gelatine varnished on one side, a very slight change in the hygrometric state of the atmosphere can be detected by the absorption of moisture causing expansion of the gelatine, and, therefore, compression of the carbon. Its action as an aneroid baroscope was suggested by Prof. Barrett, the button being associated with an exhausted box. He pointed out that before the tasimeter can be used as a measuring instrument, experiments must be made in order to ascertain the exact relation between the resistance of carbon and the pressure to which it is subjected. The carbon telephone was next described. A very ingenious and simple form of shunt, received from Mr. Edison with the tasimeter, deserves mention. A row of brass studs fixed on a board are united by plugs, so that if the current enters at one end it can pass out at the other without meeting with any appreciable resistance. But, if a plug be removed, it throws in about four inches of a resisting wire wound over two rows of pins underneath the board, one row of which are in metallic connexion with the studs. Thus the entire length of wire is in circuit when all the plugs are removed. Finally, Prof. Barrett mentioned that a communication has just been received from Mr. Edison, stating that he has succeeded in arranging an efficient receiving instrument, in which no form of magnet is employed.—Mr. Ladd then showed several forms of electric lamp, arranged so as to render the use of clockwork unnecessary. In that known as Wallace's workshop lamp, the spark passes between the edges of two plates, the lower one being fixed, while the upper one is raised to a suitable distance by an electro-magnet, brought into action immediately on the passing of the current. A second form, in which an annular magnet was employed, acted on the same principle, the armature carrying the upper plate being specially arranged so as to give a maximum of attractive force. In the third form, the V-lamp, two rods of graphite were inclined at an angle of 45° to the vertical, resting in contact on a piece of china. Immediately on the current passing, an electro-magnet is caused to act, and after the rods have been firmly gripped, they are separated, and the support removed. Should the circuit be broken, they will at once fall together.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—(Tuesday, November 12.)

JOHN EVANS, Esq., D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S., President, in the Chair. Mr. Robert Cust read a "Report on Anthropological Proceedings at the Oriental Congress," in which he gave a digest of all the papers and discussions at that Congress which appertained to the science of Anthropology.—Mr. Park Harrison read a paper on some characters tattooed on a Motu girl. The Motu are a people located in the south-eastern peninsula of New Guinea, and are described by the Rev. Dr. Turner as a superior race to the Papuans, from whom they differ both in colour and customs. The marks are mostly arranged in groups of three. On the right arm, however, nine or ten are apparently connected by a line running above them all. The characters are twenty-three or twenty-four in number, and are formed of straight lines in the following combinations, viz.: five of two lines; nine of three lines; five of four lines; and three of five lines. The Motu characters are used simply for ornament or charms. As an example of the use of letters for tattoo-marks, the case of the Austrian subject was cited who, having been taken prisoner in Burmah a few years ago, was there tattooed with letters and other patterns. Beside the characters on the Motu girl there are various pictures or hieroglyphics consisting of eyes and eyebrows, a lunar crescent, and other forms.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY.—(Tuesday, November 12.)

THIS was a special meeting to hear the Faraday Lecture, which was delivered in the theatre of the Royal Institution by Prof. A. Wurtz, and was entitled "La Constitution de la Matière a l'Etat Gazeux." The lecturer commenced by expressing his sense of the great honour which had been conferred on him by inviting him to speak in a theatre sacred to the name of Faraday. The subject was one of great interest to physicists and chemists. For some time gases and vapours were separated from each other by the distinction that vapours could be condensed to fluids, while gases were not so condensable. This distinction has gradually been broken down, and the existence of a body in the state of gas or liquid has been reduced to a simple question of temperature and pressure. Young Faraday, while assistant at the Royal Institution, liquefied chlorine; soon afterwards he obtained sulphurous acid, ammonia, cyanogen, and many other gases in the liquid state. In all his experiments the principal agent employed was pressure; some gases resisted all attempts to liquefy them by pressure alone, and were called permanent gases. From Andrew's researches it became evident that for each liquid there is a temperature, the "critical point," above which it is impossible for the liquid to exist as such; however enormous the pressure may be, it must assume the gaseous condition. The dynamical theory was then touched upon as regards its explanations of the above facts. Intense cold was finally tried in conjunction with enormous pressure, and by these means MM. Cailletet and Raoul Pictet have succeeded in liquefying almost simultaneously all gases hitherto called permanent. A description of the apparatus used by these investigators was given. Thus the distinction between permanent and non-permanent gases has been abolished, and there are no longer any permanent gases. Molecules and molecular force were then considered by the lecturer, especially Avogadro's law: "Equal volumes of gases and vapours enclose the same number of molecules." Next was illustrated and developed the proposition: "If one atom of hydrogen occupies one volume, the molecules of all compound bodies in the gaseous state occupy two volumes." The apparent exceptions to this latter proposition were dwelt upon and pronounced to be due to a decomposition of the substances which form the exceptions. With an experiment which demonstrated this to be the case with chloral hydrate, the lecturer concluded. The lecture was throughout remarkable for the elegant experiments with which it was illustrated. At the conclusion of the lecture Prof. Wurtz was presented with the Faraday medal struck in palladium.

LONDON MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY.—(Thursday, November 14.)

LORD RAYLEIGH, F.R.S., President, in the Chair. After the treasurer's and secretaries' Reports had been read and adopted, the meeting proceeded to the election of the new council. The following gentlemen were elected:—Mr. C. W. Merrifield, F.R.S., president; Prof. Cayley, F.R.S., and Lord Rayleigh, F.R.S., vice-presidents. Other changes in the council were made in accordance with our recent notice in the ACADEMY (October 19, p. 379).—Mr. Merrifield having taken the Chair, Mr. J. D. H. Dickson, M.A., was elected a member, and Prof. W. S. Jevons, F.R.S., proposed for election. The chairman then read a letter addressed to the Society by Mr. Warren de la Rue, respecting a memorial to M. Leverrier.—Lord Rayleigh communicated a paper "On the Instability of Jets;" Mr. Harry Hart read a short note by Prof. Crofton "On Self-strained Frames of Six Joints;" and Mr. Tucker (hon. sec.) read an abstract of a paper "On the Calculus of Equivalent Statements, III," by Mr. H. McColl. This last contained the solution of a test-problem to show the power of the author's method of elimination; then an explanation with illustrations and applications of another allied method, which he calls "the method of Unit and Zero Substitution;" next, a brief indication of the way in which the algebra of logic may render important service to scientific men in investigating the causes of natural phenomena; and, lastly, a brief criticism of Prof. Jevons's method of solving logical problems.

METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY.—(Thursday, November 14.)

C. GREAVES, Esq., President, in the Chair. The third of a course of six lectures on "Meteorology" was delivered by Mr. R. Strachan, the subject being "The Barometer and its Uses, Winds and Storms." The lecturer commenced by giving an historical notice of the invention and perfecting of the barometer, and said that meteorology was mainly concerned with standard instruments. He then stated that Fortin's barometer was considered a standard for first-class stations; the Kew pattern marine barometer, a standard for use at sea; and Gay-Lussac's syphon barometer, a standard for travellers; and gave a description of the relative merits of these with regard to accuracy and permanency of errors. He also referred to the Kew pattern barograph and the aneroid, and explained some of the uses of the barometer as a weather-glass. With the aid of maps and diagrams he illustrated the distribution of atmospheric pressure in storms, the average distribution over the globe, and the diurnal range of pressure. In conclusion, he referred to the labours of Admiral FitzRoy, Mr. Glaisher, and others, and described how atmospheric pressure was correlated to temperature, wind, and weather.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.—(Monday, November 18.)

SIR H. C. RAWLINSON, K.C.B., President, in the Chair. Mr. E. L. Brandreth, as delegate of the Royal Asiatic Society, spoke of the great success of the Oriental Congress, held at Florence in September last, and mentioned the kindness of the Italian hosts, and the remarkable number of distinguished scholars who were present. He added that no one could have come away without a personal sense of the obligation conferred on stranger visitors by the indefatigable exertions of the Secretary, Prof. de Gubernatis, upon whom all, or most, of the work really fell.—A paper was read, contributed by Mr. Edward Thomas, F.R.S., "On the Position of Women in the East in Olden Times," in which the writer called attention to a custom common in the ancient world, and still prevailing in some parts of the East, of naming children after the mother rather than after the father, showing the prominent influence of the women. This subject he illustrated by reference to the well-known usages of Lycia, Caria, Etruria, Persia, ancient and modern India, Ceylon, and Australia.

FINE ART.

ART BOOKS.

Pretty Arts for Leisure Hours; a Book for Ladies. By Ellis A. Davidson. (Chapman and Hall.) From the numerous works "By the Same

Author" mentioned on the title-page, and followed by "etc. etc.," Mr. Davidson would appear to have obtained readers for some at least of his former volumes. If the present book is to be taken as a fair sample of his ware, we can only express our astonishment at his success. In calling it *A Book for Ladies*, the author could not have paid a worse compliment to the fair sex. Can it be possible that there are many ladies with leisure hours who would be content to employ them in trying to carve such a very ugly end of a book-cradle as Fig. 1, or to imitate in leather-work such an amorphous object as that called "Sprig of Vine," Fig. 14? We trust not; but if it be so, then this book may provide a safety-valve for pent-up folly which might prove dangerous if turned in another direction. We all know who finds mischief for idle hands to do; and as Mr. Davidson's instructions can end in nothing worse than waste of time, wood, and cardboard, and some nice messes on the carpet, he may be a real benefactor to society. To those, however, who have leisure hours, and wish to practise some art, pretty or not, to some purpose, we cannot recommend this volume.

An Introduction to the Study of Painted Glass. By A. A. (Rivingtons.) This modest little book, by a very modest author, though little more than a compilation, is sensibly and simply arranged and very carefully written. To those who have not time or opportunity to make a thorough study of the larger works on the subject, and yet wish to be able to take an intelligent interest in the windows of the churches they may see on their travels, it will prove a very valuable *vade-mecum*. The characteristics of the different periods of glass-painting are clearly and shortly noted, and a sufficient account is given of the most remarkable examples of each style. As a guide, however, in discriminating between the merits of modern glass windows the book is less satisfactory. On this account the chapter on "Glass-Painting in the Nineteenth Century" is the least valuable of all. The student, after learning something about the different styles of the different centuries, will naturally wish to know, not only what is the best glass now produced, but also why it is the best. Although we think A. A. too diffident in expressing his opinions on these points, we are bound to say that the sound remarks scattered through the book on the principles of the art will be of much use to the student in forming a correct judgment as to the merit of any window he may see.

Archief voor Nederlandsche Kunstgeschiedenis: verzameling van meerendeels onuitgegeven berichten. Bijgebragt door Fr. D. O. Obreen. (Rotterdam.) We have already noticed (April 7 and June 9, 1877) the earlier numbers of this work, the first volume of which is now completed. It comprises 336 pages of closely-printed matter, with twelve plates of facsimiles of marks, armorial bearings of art corporations, &c., and a careful Index which adds greatly to the utility of the work. Among the documents printed in the later numbers are several relating to tapestry and stained glass executed for the Admiralty at Rotterdam, 1644-46; others concerning the manufacture of art-pottery at Utrecht, 1616-1773; and a contract for painting the shutters of the organ in the great church at Alkmaar, dated August 16, 1643; these shutters, the work of Caesar van Everdingen, are still in the church; the subject which they represent is the Triumph of King Saul. Those who have visited the Museum at Rotterdam will probably remember a large and clever picture representing the Governors of the House of the Holy Ghost, or Old Men's Home, in the High Street at Rotterdam—a group of five persons, all in black, three of whom are seated at a table while the other two are standing by. This work, dated 1653, was attributed formerly, on the authority of Mr. Lamme, to A. Mijntens; Bürger, in 1860, ascribed it to James Backer; the official catalogue of 1867 assigns

it to Daniel Mijntens the elder. Documents here published prove it, however, to be the work of John Damian Cool, a hitherto unknown artist of Rotterdam, whose name figures among those of the master-painters admitted into the Guild of St. Luke at Delft on March 7, 1614. He returned to Rotterdam in 1618, if not sooner, and there married, April 23, 1623, Elizabeth, daughter of Cornelius, widow of the painter Louis Percelles. On October 20, 1652, John D. Cool made a contract with the Governors of the Old Men's Home by which they agreed to admit him into that institution on condition of his paying them a sum of 1,225 florins, and in addition painting a picture representing them assembled together in the council-room of the house. The artist died on November 24, 1660, and was buried in the church on the 27th; this, his only known work, continued to adorn the Governors' room until 1849, when it was transferred to the Museum. Rectifications of this sort are invaluable, and we trust that this work may meet with the encouragement it deserves. The archives of many of the old Dutch towns, as yet unexplored, contain abundant notes of interest concerning the old Netherlandish artists and their works, which ought to be carefully collected and printed as soon as possible.

M. CHARLES BLANC has just published in one volume (Renouard), under the title of *Les Beaux-Arts à l'Exposition universelle de 1873*, the fortnightly articles which he contributed to the *Temps*. His criticism is highly interesting, as it represents the purest academic spirit prevailing at the present moment in the upper classes. M. Blanc is at once Professor of Aesthetics at the Collège de France, a member of the French Academy and of the Academy of Inscriptions, and an ex-Director of Fine Arts. In these pages, the result of somewhat hasty study and a ready pen, will be found the average of the criticisms of men of the world on all the schools which sent their principal representatives in painting, sculpture, engraving, &c., to the Champs de Mars. The chapter on etching and engraving is all the more curious inasmuch as, after working from the model in Paul Delaroché's studio, M. Charles Blanc learnt the patient art of line-engraving under Luigi Calamatta. His criticisms on the English school are not very extensive. M. Charles Blanc, in the academic sphere within which his intellect is confined, was only able to give it a somewhat divided attention, though not wholly unsympathetic. Of Millais' work he prefers his landscapes to his portraits, "Les paysages anglais," he writes, *à propos* of Messrs. Morris, Morgan, Aumonier, Macbeth, Boughton, Pinwell, MacWhirter (he does not mention Frederick Walker!), "sont presque toujours expressifs. Il y a un fond de sentimentalisme dans toute la peinture anglaise. Le mot *sensible* n'est pas le synonyme de *ridicule*, comme chez nous." And M. Charles Blanc pursues the traces of this sentimentalism among the *genre*-painters, Fildes, Holl, Sant, Wallis, Calderon, Yeames, Leslie, Stone, Orchardson, Miss Staples, &c., ending with Mr. Alma Tadema, in whom he recognises "more archaeological science than style." He considers the most striking painting to be Mr. Burne Jones's *Merlin and Vivien*. Among portrait-painters the eminent critic quotes Messrs. Millais, for his *Beefeater*, Watts, J. Pettie, Oulless, and Leighton. He pronounces the masterpiece of the English school to be Mr. Herkomer's *Chelsea Pensioners*. In the field of sculpture but few works are mentioned—Mr. Leighton's *Athlete*, Fuller's *Deserted*, Mr. Boehm's *Stallion* and *Thomas Carlyle*. It is certain that the masterpieces of Pheidias, which present in the British Museum the eloquent spectacle of their eternal beauty, are more visited by tourists than by sculptors.

NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

WE are glad to learn that Sir Coutts Lindsay has received Her Majesty's permission to publish

a complete series of reproductions from the drawings by the Old Masters in the Royal Library at Windsor. The exhibition last year at the Grosvenor Gallery of the wonderful series of designs by Lionardo da Vinci suggested the importance of making these treasures permanently accessible to the artistic public, and Mr. Stephen Thompson, to whom the labour of photography has been entrusted, has already taken upwards of two hundred negatives. The reproductions, which have been made by means of the Autotype Permanent Process, will, we understand, be ready for issue in the course of a few weeks. They will be arranged in four portfolios, of which the first two will contain one hundred drawings by Lionardo. The third portfolio will contain the drawings of Raphael and Michelangelo; and the fourth portfolio will be devoted to the Early Italian Masters, and to Dürer, Claude, &c.

In regard to the approaching exhibition at the Grosvenor Gallery we hear that a very remarkable series of Italian drawings is to be lent for exhibition from the Library of Christ Church, Oxford. This collection is only known to the public by one or two examples exhibited at Leeds, and the present display will therefore be in the nature of a revelation. We understand that it contains some exquisite specimens of Lionardo da Vinci, Andrea Mantegna, Raphael, and Giorgione. The early Florentine School is also said to be well represented.

MR. MILLAIS is said to be so pleased with the etching from the portrait of Mrs. Bischoffsheim lately published in *L'Art* that he has invited the engraver, Mr. Waltner, to etch the picture of *The Gambler's Wife*.

MR. BERESFORD HOPE, M.P., has consented to preside at the distribution of prizes to the students of the St. Martin's Lane School of Art, which is to take place on the 29th inst.

MR. FREDERICK LEIGHTON, the newly-elected President of the Royal Academy, has accepted an invitation to be present at the annual dinner of the Arts Club, which will be held early in December.

WE regret to learn that Mr. Herkomer is seriously ill.

WE understand that the Royal Academy has not definitely decided to hold an exhibition of drawings by the Old Masters this winter. The announcements which have been made to that effect have been somewhat premature. Several members of the Academy feel, it is said, considerable reluctance to undertake a task that would give the appearance of entering into competition with the Grosvenor Gallery; and this view is partly strengthened by the fact that most of the private collectors have again offered their contributions to the institution in Bond Street. To the public, however, it would clearly be a gain that the Academy should prosecute their idea. Their efforts would form an interesting supplement to the more extensive collection that will be found elsewhere.

THE purchase of a large collection of sketches by John Leech is likely to be made for the library of the Charterhouse School. These sketches, including, among a number of others, those for the *Comic History of Rome* and the *Comic History of England*, were offered by the Leech family for sale to the Charterhouse, the school in which John Leech was educated. A fund has now been raised among old Carthusians for their purchase, to which the managing committee of the library contribute 50*l.*, so that it may be hoped that these delightful records of the wit and humour of a past scholar will be secured to stimulate the comic genius of future Carthusians.

THE news of an important archaeological discovery at Wedmore, in Somerset, was reported last week to the *Times* by the secretary of the Somersetshire Archaeological Society. Wed-

more has long been supposed to have been the site of one of the palaces of our early English kings. It was here that Aelfred in 878 made his solemn peace or "frith" with the Danes, when their leader Guthrum was baptised, and Wessex for the time delivered from these harassing Northmen. The thousandth anniversary of this event, which secured for England Aelfred's wise rule and peaceful government, was celebrated last September at Wedmore. Since then the Rev. Sydenham Hervey, the Rector of Wedmore, has undertaken excavations with a view of finding the site of the old Saxon palace, which tradition has always pointed out as lying in a field called the Court Garden, about a mile from Wedmore Church. Here then the rector commenced his digging, and has been so fortunate as to light—almost at once, it would seem—upon the very spot for which he was searching. At a depth of about six to ten feet below the ground he has discovered the remains of massive walls, cemented with ancient mortar. Five distinct lines of these have been opened, and Mr. Hervey is now trying to find out their connexion, for they are not merely foundations, some of them being lined inside with plaster. Hitherto no coins have been found, but only a large quantity of pottery both Roman and Early English, some of it ornamented in a rude manner, and one piece, probably the mouth of a jar, representing a small but beautiful female face.

"There can be little doubt," says Mr. Hunt, the secretary, who sends the account, "that Mr. Hervey has really discovered the remains of the old palace of our West Saxon Kings, the very scene of the high festival at which 1,000 years ago the peace was signed with the Danes, and the fillet was loosed from the brow of Guthorm, or rather Aethelstan, to call him by his new Christian name. The character of the pottery and the shape of some of the shingles which have been found seem to point to the probability that the old English building was raised upon the site of some older Romano-Celtic villa."

It is hoped that funds will be forthcoming to enable Mr. Hervey to carry on operations, for no doubt much more remains to be laid open, and it is especially probable that coins will be discovered, the traditions of the place having always pointed to hidden treasure.

MR. SAM BOUGH, R.S.A., died at Edinburgh on the 19th inst. He was born at Carlisle in 1822, became an Associate of the Royal Scottish Academy in 1857, and an Academician in 1875. We hope to speak more fully next week of the life and works of this distinguished artist.

THE new regulations concerning commissions for, and the acquisition of, works of art by the French Government were published last week in the *Chronique des Arts*. One of the most important of the articles enumerated is that "commissions or acquisitions made by the State include the exclusive right for the State of reproduction by any means it may deem desirable." Therefore no repetition of a work purchased by the State can be made by the artist or any other person without the express permission of the Administration. This permission, when granted, will determine the modifications which an artist must make in the reproduction of his work in order that the repetition may not be confounded with the original.

Two new historical portraits have lately been added to the series we have already described as having been painted by Louis Gallait in the Belgian Senate-house. These represent the Duke Philippe le Bon and Charles V., both standing out from gold backgrounds with excellent decorative effect. The Charles V. here, however, is not the Charles V. of Gallait's celebrated *Abdication*; for, though the likeness is preserved, the whole life of the face seems to have died out. Philippe le Bon, also, is merely a conventional rendering of an established type.

It is significant that the French Commission of Fine Arts, taking into consideration the large sums spent every year in the purchase by the

Government of religious pictures for churches, have decided that the 137,000 frs. allotted in the Budget for the purchase of religious works shall henceforward go to increase the grant for acquisitions to the national museums, which shall from this time be augmented to 287,000 frs.

THE sepulchre of a Roman legionary has been found at Jart, in La Vendée. It is curious that a leaden casque and a leaden dart have been found in this tomb, which are perfectly unique, so far as is known at present. The forms of the casque, the lance, and the leaden ring leave, according to antiquaries, no doubt as to their Roman origin; but these leaden objects cannot be matched in any European museum, and thus have a considerable historical interest.

THE *Athenaeum Belge* announces that the sale of the works left by the late M. Madou will take place in the middle of next month. Beside finished pictures, and sketches for well-known works, it includes a series of designs in *grisaille* and colours of special interest.

EXCAVATIONS conducted in Bonn for some months past have led to interesting results. A Roman castrum has been discovered, which in preservation and extent is superior to that near Homburg, which was considered unique in Germany. The apparatus for heating the floors and walls was found almost entire.

THE Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin has undertaken to restore the statue of Koerner erected in his burial-place at Woebbeln, which has fallen into disrepair.

THE Grand Duke Constantine has bought for 19,000 francs the picture by Lederströms which excited such interest at the Paris Exhibition, *The Body of Charles XII. carried across the Norwegian Mountains*.

AN important discovery of Roman sculptures has been made at Neumagen on the Moselle. They are now on view in the Museum of Trèves, and are in excellent preservation. Their subjects are of much interest, as they chiefly represent domestic scenes, vintages, hunting, coursing, and so forth, indicating among other matters that even in those days vine-culture formed the chief occupation of the dwellers on the Moselle. In point of time they are, it is believed, to be referred to the second century A.D.

It was proposed, we understand, by the Saxon Administration to appoint Adolf Halbreiter, the well-known Bavarian sculptor, to the post of Professor and Director of the Department for Modelling, Carving, &c., in the Dresden School of Science and Art. Halbreiter is reckoned among the most capable of those who pursue his special branch of art, and his loss at Munich would probably have been most sensibly felt. In consequence, however, of a request said to have been made to him directly by King Ludwig, Halbreiter has declined the proffered post, and the king has shown his satisfaction by conferring upon him the rank and title of Royal Professor.

THE STAGE.

Our Old Actors. By Henry Barton Baker. (R. Bentley & Son.)

THE ephemeral nature of theatrical triumphs has often been deplored. In the judgment of Hazlitt, however, "one thunder of applause from pit, boxes, and gallery is equal to a whole immortality of posthumous fame;" and certainly biographers and book-makers have done their best to perpetuate the memories and the glories of the players. Mr. Baker, in his new work, *Our Old Actors*, travels over very well-trodden ground, and repeats many trite stories: it cannot be said, indeed, that he has added much to the stock

of information already possessed by the world and contained in such productions as Galt's *Lives of the Players*, Doran's *Their Majesties' Servants*, and Mr. Clark Russell's *Representative Actors*, &c. Nevertheless, Mr. Baker's compilation may find a public among those readers who care only for books freshly issued from the press, or have no access to volumes which have ceased to circulate at the public libraries, and have subsided into the quietude—possibly the neglect—of private shelves. Mr. Baker possesses a sufficient acquaintance with his subject, and provides very liberal quotations from the best and most entertaining of theatrical authorities. Many of his chapters, as he candidly states, have seen service in a detached form as magazine articles; but he has been at some pains to impart a coherent air to his book, and justly asserts of it that it is "much more than a mere reprint." At the same time, his claim to have accomplished "a chronological history of actors and acting from Shakespeare to Macready" is somewhat arrogant. He has rather exhibited a series of sketches of various performers, now portraying some at full length on a large canvas, and now content to represent but the heads and shoulders, or simply the profiles, of others, on a smaller scale, with some indistinctness of design and poverty of colour. In this way certain of the players have acquired an importance which is above their strict due, the position they held in their profession being borne in mind. It is not because of her merits as an actress that "Perdita" Robinson, for instance, figures so prominently in Mr. Baker's book; and as much, perhaps, may be said of Mrs. Jordan. There is no good reason why of two performers of equal note one should obtain a whole chapter to himself or herself, while the other is dismissed with the briefest of mention. For historical proportion too much is said about Master Betty, and excessive attention is bestowed upon Elliston. Mr. Baker protests against his book being regarded as a biographical dictionary, while averring that he has recorded the names of all our old actors with the exception of those "which have fallen into oblivion and to which little or no interest is now attached." But this profession is too unbounded.

Mr. Baker usually states his facts carefully enough, but he has been betrayed into sundry inaccuracies. It was not at the Red Bull, but at the theatre in Vere Street, Clare Market, that a woman, probably Mrs. Hughes, first appeared on the English stage, when Thomas Jordan's Prologue was spoken "to introduce the first woman that came to act on the stage in the tragedy called the *Moor of Venice*." Referring to the death of Mountford, the actor, Mr. Baker—who prefers to spell the name Mountfort—writes:—"The Peers did not consider murder proved against Hill, and to their disgrace acquitted him." Captain Hill could not have been tried for murder by the House of Lords. As a matter of fact, Hill was not tried at all, but fled the country and escaped justice. The acquittal of Lord Mohun, although it has excited the indignation of Macaulay, was not unreasonable. The evidence showed that the nobleman and the player had been on cordial terms, and almost the last words uttered by

Mountford were to the effect that he had received no violence at Lord Mohun's hands. Mr. Baker adopts Dr. Doran's statement that Colley Cibber died in Berkeley Square, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. Neale's copious History of the Abbey makes no mention of Cibber's interment there. In the *Biographia Dramatica* it is stated that he died at Islington. Cunningham, in his *London*, enumerates Cibber among the "eminent inhabitants" of Islington, pointing out the house "in which he is said to have died" as next to the Castle Tavern, and records his burial in the vaults of the Danish Church in Wellclose Square, built by his father, Caius Gabriel Cibber, at the expense of Christian V., King of Denmark. Mr. Baker says of Spranger Barry that he was born in 1719 and died in 1776, "at the early age of 55." He died in 1777 at the age of 58. The statement that Garrick and John Kemble alike attired Othello "in the scarlet uniform of a British officer" is certainly incorrect so far as Garrick is concerned, at any rate. He followed Foote's example, and dressed Othello "after the custom of his country," the Oriental habit unluckily enhancing the actor's resemblance to Pompey, the little black boy in Hogarth's pictures. Mrs. Robinson can hardly on the same evening have appeared in the two afterpieces of *The Miniature Picture* and *The Irish Widow*. The season closed at Drury Lane on May 31, 1780, when the comedy of *Rule a Wife and have a Wife* was played with Lady Craven's little play *The Miniature Picture*, in which no doubt Mrs. Robinson appeared as the heroine, Miss Camply, who assumes male dress, and calls herself Sir Harry Revel. After this, Perdita was seen no more upon the stage. The story of the outrages suffered by the remains of George Frederick Cooke in America should be told upon the authority, not of Dr. Doran, but of Dr. Francis in his *Old New York*. Cooke's skull was stolen, not at an inquest held immediately after death, but upon the transfer of the corpse, at Kean's expense, from the stranger's vault to the burial-ground of the parish church of St. Paul's. Kean possessed himself of one of the toe-bones to preserve as a relic. In the *Memoirs* of Hazlitt appears a letter addressed to him by one of his American admirers, proffering him, from a conviction that he would richly value "any part of so great a being," a fragment of the liver of the departed actor!

These and other errors of like character can easily be corrected, and probably will occasion no sort of discomfort to the general reader. But it could be wished that Mr. Baker had abstained from the unpolished diction he now and then permits himself. "Pea-Green" Hayne, who jilted Miss Foote, was a poor and vicious creature, no doubt, and the Mrs. Cox who figures in the story of Edmund Kean was a worthless sort of woman, possibly; but it is not well to describe the one as a "horsey silly cad," or the other as "Mrs. Potiphar." Dr. Johnson should not be bluntly referred to as "Sam," nor should Horace Walpole be dubbed "a superfine snob." In books of serious pretence the slang of the streets should be eschewed. This is not an elegant

sentence: "During her short professional career she accumulated 30,000*l.*, which at her marriage she settled upon her family, which had always been dependant upon her." Nor is this passage relating to the elder Mathews much to be admired: "On the day he left London to fulfil some engagement in Yorkshire, Scott called at his house and invited him to dine with him and Byron at Long's, and proposed to be the companion of his journey to Warwick and Kenilworth, which he then greatly desired to see." The statement that the younger Mathews was compelled to become an actor by "the embarrassed position of himself and his mother" is surely erroneous.

The stage as it now exists Mr. Baker views despairingly. The old actors absorb all his tenderness of sentiment; toward players of a later date he is almost acrimonious. He holds that after the retirement of Garrick histrionic art underwent grave decline, and that the abolition of the monopoly so long enjoyed and abused by the two patent theatres was simply the death-blow of the British drama. Accounting the Garrick period as "the grandest in theatrical annals," he deals unkindly with the Kembles, whose management, he thinks, did not tend to the elevation of the stage. Mrs. Crawford, he ventures to decide, was a finer genius than Mrs. Siddons; and he lectures Miss Fanny Kemble severely for having written disparagingly of the art she once professed, politely reminding her that "but for the stage the Kembles might have been a generation of barbers." He deems it a disgrace to the country that no national theatre exists supported by the State, or by wealthy amateurs, and he highly approves the censorship, believing that "but for such a restraint there would not be a crime committed, however atrocious, that some unprincipled manager would not represent it upon his stage," &c. DUTTON COOK.

MUSIC.

BOROUGH OF HACKNEY CHORAL ASSOCIATION.

AN abnormal activity pervades musical circles just at present; but of the many interesting entertainments given recently, two concerts organised in connexion with the institution named above and the Royal Normal College for the Blind seem to demand the fullest notice. One would scarcely name the north-east district of London as a likely locality in which to find an undertaking having for its object the dissemination of music in its purest and most intellectual form. But here, at the very antipodes of rank, wealth, and fashion, we find a society carrying on its operations with a devotion to art almost stern in its unbending integrity. Both in its internal working and in the strict regulations to which the audiences at its periodical concerts are asked to adhere, the Borough of Hackney Choral Association shows a determination to advance the cause of musical culture by every means within its power. Further than this, the programmes of the concerts are mainly composed of works of art which other societies neglect, either from timidity or apathy; and the performances are distinguished rather for excellence of *ensemble* than as occasions for the display of star vocalists and instrumentalists. When it is said that the public cares nothing for unfamiliar music, and moreover requires the attraction of artists of celebrity before it will bestow its patronage, we may point to the

Hackney Association as triumphant witness to the contrary. Of the share which Mr. Ebenezer Prout, as conductor, has had in the labour of winning for the society its present successful and honoured position this is scarcely the place to speak. A bare narration of facts must suffice, and in this case the facts speak for themselves. The concert of Monday evening—the first of the present season—was fairly representative in every respect. The most prominent feature of the programme was the third part of Schumann's music to Goethe's *Faust*. This most beautiful creation was first performed in England by the Cambridge University Musical Society, and it was given at a Philharmonic Concert in the season of 1877. The latter performance was, however, extremely unsatisfactory. The difficulties of the music are certainly of no ordinary kind, and this fact, coupled with the distrust still attaching to the name of Schumann in some quarters, will suffice to account for the neglect of a truly-inspired work. Long and patient rehearsal, however, will accomplish wonders; and, in the opinion of the many musicians of eminence who were present at the Shoreditch Town Hall on Monday, the rendering of the *Faust* music was little short of perfection. The very fine chorus of about 170 voices was aided by an orchestra of nearly 50, selected in the main from the Crystal Palace band; and the solos were efficiently given by Miss Clara Samuelli, Miss Amy Aylward, Miss Kate Steel, Mrs. Irene Ware, M^{de}. Bolingbroke, Miss Singleton, Miss Reimar, Mr. Beckett, Mr. Sidney Tower, and Mr. Theiler. The second part of the concert comprised a lengthy selection from Mendelssohn's *Midsummer Night's Dream* music, including all the orchestral movements, the duet "Ye spotted snakes," and the finale, "Through the house give glimmering light." These were given with commendable precision and delicacy, the band and chorus being alike admirable throughout. The quartett and chorus "Wreath into garlands," from Weber's *Jubilee Cantata*, afforded an opportunity to the soprano contingent to display their command over exceptional high notes, and this very interesting programme was brought to an effective conclusion by a spirited performance of Auber's overture to *Le Domino Noir*. No apology is needed for dwelling in detail on a concert which if given at St. James's Hall would be considered one of the most important of the season. But enough has now been said to bring the claims of the Hackney Society to the notice of our musical readers, and we will only add that the concerts announced for January 13, March 10, and May 5, promise to be of equal interest with that of Monday last.

ROYAL NORMAL COLLEGE FOR THE BLIND.

THE aims of the Royal Normal College and Academy of Music for the Blind are sufficiently well known to obviate the necessity of speaking at length on their merits. An institution which enables an afflicted section of humanity to secure a livelihood and honourable independence must needs be worthy of support. The Normal College, recognising the capacity for music so frequently observable in persons deprived of sight, strives to render those brought within its influence competent as performers and teachers, while securing to them also the benefits of a sound general education. The concerts given under the direction of the Principal, Mr. F. J. Campbell, at St. James's Hall, have so far proved of remarkable interest to musicians, apart from all secondary circumstances. That of Tuesday evening was rich in novelties and features of special import. Three works were given for the first time in London. The first of these, Gade's *Concertstück*, or "Spring Fantasia" (Op. 23), was performed some time since under Mr. Weist Hill's direction at the Alexandra Palace. The work consists of three movements for pianoforte, vocal quartett, and orchestra, and is therefore probably unique in

form. But the music is delightfully fresh, melodious, and full of charm, each division of the performers having an appropriate and grateful share in the production of the general effect. Dr. Hans von Bülow's Symphonic Ballad *Des Sängers Fluch*, founded on Uhland's poem, must be placed in another category. Whether instrumental music having a poetic basis is *ipso facto* superior or inferior to that which is sufficient unto itself, we do not now propose to discuss. But, at any rate, the modern theories have gained sufficient footing to command respect, and as a matter of justice it is advisable to consider each new work from the standpoint of musical effect, whether aided by a "programme" or not. Thus considered, Hans von Bülow's orchestral fantasia—for such it really is—may be termed a vaguely suggestive piece, not altogether without beauty, and formed to a considerable extent on two well-contrasted themes, one agitated and uncompromising and the other flowing and tender. A second hearing might tend to create more strictly favourable impressions. But this could scarcely be the case with Liszt's *Totentanz* for pianoforte and orchestra, which constituted the third novelty of the concert. This rhapsodical piece, said to have been suggested by Holbein's well-known series of pictures, consists of a number of variations on the ancient tune "Dies Irae," in the Dorian mode. These variations vie with each other in ghastly discordance. There is not a single strain of genuine melody, not two consecutive bars of agreeable harmony, throughout the work. All is hideous, bizarre, chaotic. The pianoforte part is of enormous difficulty, and it is only bare justice to Mr. Fritz Hartvigson to say that he played it with consummate ease, and in a manner which seemed to imply that he relished his task. But to the majority of those present Beethoven's ever-welcome C minor symphony must have proved doubly refreshing by comparison, and, although we may not quite agree with Dr. von Bülow's view of this classic work, the fervour with which he conducted the fine orchestra produced a magical effect, especially in the finale. Not less interesting in a different way was the German musician's performance of Beethoven's sonata in E flat (Op. 29, No. 3). This lovely work received a very poetical rendering, especially as regards the two middle movements, which were played with exquisite finish. The rendering of the first and last movements was more open to question. The various performances of the pupils of the Royal Normal College reflected the greatest credit on the institution, and we would gladly refer to them in detail did space permit. But beyond all question an excellent work is being carried on with quietness and without ostentation—a work worthy of hearty recognition and support by musicians and the general public.

HENRY F. FROST.

THE Crystal Palace Concert of last Saturday was not specially interesting, and the novelty of the day—two ballet airs from M. St.-Saëns' *Samson et Dalila*—was placed at the end of the programme. This method of procedure is frequently adopted at the Crystal Palace, but it is a custom which would be more honoured in the breach than the observance. The other orchestral works were Beethoven's symphony in C minor, and the picturesque overture to Berlioz's opera *Benvenuto Cellini*, which received a magnificent rendering. By the way, it was in 1853 that this opera was performed at Covent Garden, not 1843, as stated in the programme. It was not until 1847 that the Royal Italian Opera was started in opposition to Mr. Lumley's management at Her Majesty's Theatre. Mr. George Magrath, a youthful pianist from New York, who, we believe, has studied in Germany, made his first appearance at these concerts, selecting, very unadvisedly, Rubinstein's concerto in D minor. The result was a comparative failure, though Mr. Magrath has evidently

received sound training, and plays with correctness and intelligence. Had he made a more suitable choice his success would have been proportionately greater. The vocalists were M^{de}. Pappenheim and Mr. Barton McGuckin, who gave considerable satisfaction alike by their selection of songs and by their artistic singing.

HOWEVER much we may regret the fact that operatic *soprani* should evince such a decided preference for *La Traviata* as a suitable work in which to make their *début*, it is not difficult to account for the predilection. The heroine of Verdi's nauseous opera can exhibit her vocal skill to much advantage; she can pourtray the most varied and opposite phases of human emotion; and she has abundant opportunity for the display of such charms of person and manner as she may happen to possess. It cannot be said that M^{lle}. Ambre fulfils these various functions to a conspicuous degree of excellence, but her merits are of no mean order taken in their entirety. A native of Oran, in Algiers, she has all the warmth and impetuosity of Southern blood, and her acting is therefore imbued with force and realism, at times even to a painful extent. Her voice is sufficiently powerful, though of no very sympathetic quality, and her delivery of florid passages is more remarkable for dash than correct intonation. A more distinct estimate of the position M^{lle}. Ambre should occupy on the lyric stage must be deferred until she has appeared in another character.

On Wednesday afternoon, at St. James's Hall, Dr. Hans von Bülow played Beethoven's five sonatas Op. 101, 106, 109, 110, and 111. He had previously performed the same feat in Berlin and Hanover. Except as a test of memory—for the pianist played without book—it is difficult to assign a motive for such a singular task, exhausting alike to performer and audience. Musicians will scarcely need to be reminded that Beethoven's last sonatas belong to his so-called "third manner," and that the performance of one of them is generally considered a distinct criterion of executive ability, as well as a compliment to the intellectual capacity of those who are called upon to listen. It is therefore easy to estimate the strain involved upon all concerned in the presentation, at one recital, of five such works. As to the manner in which Dr. von Bülow acquitted himself of his arduous though self-imposed labours much might be said in the direction both of praise and blame. At times the player seemed to be the victim of undue excitement, as in the final movement of Op. 106; and at such periods the text of the composer suffered more or less. Forced and inaccurate readings of certain phrases might also have been noted now and again. But, on the other hand, some movements were delivered with exquisite taste and purity of feeling. Such were the *andante* and variations in Op. 109, the fugue in Op. 110, and several others. It is only fair to Dr. Hans von Bülow to add that loss of memory occurred but once or twice during the entire performance, and then only for an instant; and that no symptoms of mental or mechanical exhaustion were perceptible even near the close.

IN consequence of the lack of a room in Kensington sufficiently large for concert purposes, Mr. J. S. Shedlock gave the second of his Musical Evenings at the Royal Academy of Music, on Wednesday. The first part was selected from Weber's works, and included the bright and melodious trio in G minor (Op. 63), and the Sonata in C (Op. 24). The latter was played with much vigour by Mr. Shedlock. Schumann's Trio in D minor was the principal item of the second part. Mr. Palmer was the violinist, and Herr Lütgen the violoncellist. There was a large and appreciative audience.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

A dams (E. R.), Lectures on Religion, cr 8vo.. (Hamilton)	2/6
Alcott (L. M.), Under the Lilacs, 12mo..... (S. Low)	5/0
Almanach de Gotha, 1879 (Dulan)	7/0
Armitt (A.), The Garden at Monkholme, 3 vols., cr 8vo (S. Tinsley)	31/6
Arnold (A.), Social Politics, 8vo.. (C. Kegan Paul & Co.)	14/0
Bayley (T.), Pocket-Book for Chemists, &c., 18mo (Spon)	5/0
Beatty (P.), To My Lady, and other Poems, 12mo (Provost)	6/0
Black (W.), Macleod of Dare, 3 vols., cr 8vo.. (Macmillan)	31/6
Bliss (J. W.), Every Inch a King: or, Adventures of Rex and his Friends, large sq..... (Griffith & Farran)	2/6
British Juvenile, 1878, fol (Smart & Allen)	1/6
British Workwoman, 1878, fol (Smart & Allen)	1/6
Bury (W.), The Power and Speed of Steam Vessels, 4to (Spon)	3/6
Cameron (H. L.), Juliet's Guardian, cr 8vo (Chatto & Windus)	6/0
Cameron (M. E.), The House of Achendarooh, cr 8vo (S. Tinsley)	7/6
Church Builder, 1878, cr 8vo..... (Rivingtons)	3/0
Church (A. J.), Stories from Virgil, cr 8vo (Seelye)	5/0
Clark (T. H.), Sketches of Short Tours at Home and Abroad, 12mo (Hamilton)	2/6
Collins (W.), Haunted Hotel: a Mystery of Modern Venice, 2 vols., cr 8vo (Chatto & Windus)	21/0
Cook (Capt.), Voyage Round the World, illustrated with 12 plates, 8vo (Bickers)	7/6
Edwards (H. B.), A Tantalus Cup, 3 vols., cr 8vo (S. Tinsley)	31/6
Favourite English Pictures reproduced in Autotype, fol (S. Low)	42/0
Footo (J. A.), Concise Treatise on Private International Jurisprudence, 8vo (Stevens)	25/0
Greenup (W. T.), Food and its Preparation: a Course of 20 Lectures, 12mo (Bemrose)	2/6
Hatchard (G.), Thoughts on the Lord's Prayer for Mothers' Meetings, 12mo (Hatchards)	2/6
Hawes (H. R.), Arrows in the Air, cr 8vo (C. Kegan Paul & Co.)	6/0
Hifferman (J. M.), Thoughts on Various Themes, 12mo (Hamilton)	5/0
James (A. M.), Hymns of Love and Thankfulness, sq (Hatchards)	1/6
Lacroix (P.), Eighteenth Century: its Institutions, Customs, &c., 1700-89, roy 8vo (Bickers)	15/0
Laird of Logan: or, Anecdotes and Tales Illustrative of the Wit and Humour of Scotland, cr 8vo..... (Forrester)	5/0
Lear (S.), For Days and Years, 18mo (Rivingtons)	2/6
Lee (F. G.), Historical Sketch of the Reformation, 8vo (Griffith & Farran)	10/6
Macdonald (A.), The Bearing of Chronic Disease of the Heart upon Pregnancy, &c., 8vo (Churchill)	8/6
Macduff (J. R.), Eventide at Bethel, 12mo (Nisbet)	3/6
McKeen (P. F.), Theodora Cameron: a Home Story, cr 8vo (Holder)	5/0
Mind: a Quarterly Review, vol. iii., 8vo (Williams & Norgate)	13/6
Mirth: a Miscellany of Wit and Humour, ed. by H. J. Byron, 4to (Tinsley)	7/6
North (Brownlow), Records and Recollections by K. M. Stuart, cr 8vo (Hodder)	7/6
Osborn (S.), Hydrocele: its several Varieties and their Treatment, 12mo (Churchill)	3/0
Parker (J. H.), The Primitive Fortifications of the City of Rome, 8vo (J. Parker)	21/0
Parley (Peter), Annual, 1879 (B. George)	5/0
Pepys's Diary and Correspondence, vol. vi., roy 8vo (Bickers)	15/0
Raden (W.), Switzerland: its Mountains and Valleys, 4to (Bickers)	42/0
Salamau (A. A.), Aunt Annette's Stories to Ada, sq (Griffith & Farran)	1/6
Schumann (R.), Life of, with Letters, 1833-52, cr 8vo (Reeves)	8/6
Schwendler (L.), Instruction for Testing Telegraph Lines, &c., vol. I, 8vo (Trübner)	12/0
Scott (Sir W.), Novels and Poems, Handy Volume Edition, 32 vols., in box (Bradbury)	67/6
Seinacherib, History of, translated from the Cuneiform Inscriptions by G. Smith, roy 8vo (Williams & Norgate)	15/0
Simcox (E.), Natural Law: an Essay in Ethics, 8vo (Trübner)	10/6
Sullivan (A. M.), New Ireland, cr 8vo (S. Low)	8/6
Sullivan (M.), Day of Wonders: a Medley of Sense and Nonsense, cr 8vo..... (Griffith & Farran)	5/0
Thackeray (W. M.), Great Hogarty Diamond, cr 8vo (Smith, Elder & Co.)	3/6
Todhunter (T.), Key to Mechanics for Beginners, cr 8vo (Macmillan)	6/6
Trollope (T. A.), Slide from History's Magic Lantern, 8vo (Bickers)	7/6
Walker (S.), The Christian Armour, in Ten Sermons, 12mo (Hamilton)	1/6
Walter Forbes, by A. A., cr 8vo..... (S. Tinsley)	7/6
Williams (J. S.), Queen Elfrida of the Olden Time, 12mo (Hatchards)	3/6
Wilson (A.), Leisure Time Studies, chiefly Biological, cr 8vo (Chatto & Windus)	10/6
Wilson (A. M.), Destiny of the Wicked, 12mo (Hamilton)	2/0
Wilson (J.), Memoir of, by his Daughter, cr 8vo (Simpkin, Marshall & Co.)	6/0

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE
FRY'S BIBLIOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE EDITIONS OF TYNDALE'S VERSION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT, by the Rev. N. POCOCK	487
SYMONDS'S SHELLEY, by E. W. GOSSE	488
STEINACKER'S HUNGARIAN LYRICS, by Mrs. BEAVINGTON ATKINSON	489
GATTY'S REGISTERS OF ECCLESFIELD PARISH CHURCH, by E. C. WATERS	490
THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF SIR GEORGE BIDDLECOMBE, by Capt. A. H. MARKHAM	490
HERTZBERG'S EDITION OF THE LIBELL OF ENGLISH POLITICS, by G. F. WARNER	491
NEW NOVELS, by the Rev. Dr. LITLEDALE	492
GIFT-BOOKS, by Mrs. JAMES OWEN	493
NOTES AND NEWS	495
OBITUARY: W. G. Clark, H. S. King, &c.	496
NOTES OF TRAVEL	498
MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS	499
PARIS LETTER, by G. MONOD	499
SELECTED BOOKS	501
CORRESPONDENCE:—	
The Library at St. Wulfram's, Grantham, by G. Gilbert Scott; Sepulchral Masks, by Lord Talbot de Malahide; Cleistogamic Flowers, by A. W. Bennett	501
APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK	501
KINAHAN'S MANUAL OF THE GEOLOGY OF IRELAND, by Prof. P. W. RUDLER	502
NOIRÉ ON THE ORIGIN OF LANGUAGE, by the Rev. A. H. SAYCE	502
SCIENCE NOTES (ANTHROPOLOGY; BOTANY)	503
MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES	504
ART BOOKS	506
NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY	506
BAKER'S OUR OLD ACTORS, by DUTTON COOK	507
THE BOROUGHS OF HACKNEY CHORAL ASSOCIATION, AND THE ROYAL NORMAL COLLEGE FOR THE BLIND, by H. F. FROST	508
MUSIC NOTES, NEW PUBLICATIONS	508-10

Now ready, VOLUME XIII. of the ACADEMY, January to June, 1878, bound in cloth, price 10s. CASES for BINDING Volume XIII., now ready, price 2s.

All Back Numbers of the ACADEMY may be had from the commencement of the publication in October, 1869.

AGENCIES.

Copies of the ACADEMY can be obtained every Saturday morning in EDINBURGH of Mr. MENZIES; in DUBLIN of Messrs. W. H. SMITH AND SONS; in MANCHESTER of Mr. J. HEYWOOD. Ten days after date of publication, in NEW YORK, of Messrs. G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS. There are also Agencies in twelve of the principal cities of the NORTH and WEST of the UNITED STATES.

PARIS.

Copies can be obtained in PARIS every Saturday morning of M. FOTHERINGHAM, 8 Rue Neuve des Capucines.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

TO

THE ACADEMY.

	YEARLY.	HALF-YEARLY.	QUARTERLY.
If obtained of a Newsvendor or at a Railway Station	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Including Postage to any part of the United Kingdom	0 13 0	0 6 6	0 3 3
Including Postage to any part of France, Germany, India, China, &c.	0 15 2	0 7 7	0 3 10
	0 17 4	0 8 8	0 4 4

TRÜBNER & CO'S LIST.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

EGYPT, CYPRUS, and ASIATIC TURKEY. By J. LEWIS FARLEY, Author of "Resources of Turkey."

Just published, in 1 vol. small 4to, pp. 172, handsomely bound in white vellum, 12s.

PRINCE DEUKALION; a Lyrical Drama. By BAYARD TAYLOR. English Copyright Edition.

Just published, in 2 vols. crown 8vo, pp. 348 and 360, cloth, 21s.

The DEVIL'S ADVOCATE. By Percy Greg.

Just published, Vol. I., demy 8vo, xii. and 239 pp., cloth, 12s.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TESTING TELEGRAPH LINES, and the Technical Arrangements of Offices. Originally written on behalf of the Government of India, under the Orders of the Director-General of Telegraphs in India. By LOUIS SCHWENDLER. Second Edition, authorised by H. M. Secretary of State for India in Council.

ENGLISH AND FOREIGN PHILOSOPHICAL LIBRARY.

Vols. I. to III.

Vol. I., post 8vo, pp. 350, cloth, 10s. 6d.

A HISTORY OF MATERIALISM. By Prof. F. A. LANGE. Authorised Translation from the German by ERNEST C. THOMAS. In Three Volumes.

Vols. II. and III. in the Press.

Vol. IV.

Post 8vo, pp. 366, cloth, price 10s. 6d.

NATURAL LAW: an Essay in Ethics. By EDITH SIMCOX. Second Edition.

Vols. V. and VI.

In Two Volumes, post 8vo, pp. 280 and 290, cloth, price 15s.

The CREED OF CHRISTENDOM; its Foundations contrasted with Superstructure. By W. R. GREG. Fifth Edition, with a New Introduction.

Vol. VII.

Post 8vo, pp. xx-250, cloth, 7s. 6d.

OUTLINES of the HISTORY of RELIGION to the SPREAD of the UNIVERSAL RELIGIONS. By Prof. C. P. TIELE. Translated from the Dutch by J. ESTLIN CARPENTER, M.A., with the Author's assistance.

Vol. VIII.

Post 8vo, pp. xvi-260, cloth, 7s. 6d.

RELIGION in CHINA; containing a Brief Account of the Three Religions of the Chinese; with Observations on the Prospects of Christian Conversion amongst that People. By JOS. EDKINS, D.D., Peking. Second Edition.

Vol. IX.

Crown 8vo, pp. 216, cloth, 7s. 6d.

A CANDID EXAMINATION of THEISM. By PHYSICUS.

EXTRA SERIES.

Vols. I. and II.

In 2 vols. post 8vo, pp. xx-338, and xvi-358, with Portraits, handsomely bound in cloth, 21s.

LESSING, His Life and Writings. By JAMES SIMS, M.A.

Vol. III.

In 1 vol. post 8vo, pp. xvi-248, cloth 7s. 6d.

An ACCOUNT of the POLYNESIAN RACE: its Origin and Migrations, and the Ancient History of the Hawaiian People to the Times of Kamehameha I. By ABRAHAM FERNANDEZ, Circuit Judge of the Island of Maui, H.I.

* * * Other Works are in preparation, and will be duly announced.

TRÜBNER & CO'S ORIENTAL SERIES.

Post 8vo, pp. xvi-428, cloth, 16s.

1. ESSAYS on the SACRED LANGUAGES, WRITINGS, and RELIGION of the PARSIS. By MARTIN HAUG, Ph.D., late Professor of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology at the University of Munich. Second Edition. Edited by E. W. WEST, Ph.D.

Post 8vo, pp. viii-176, cloth, 7s. 6d.

2. SCRIPTURAL TEXTS from the BUDDHIST CANON, commonly known as DIAMMAPADA. Translated from the Chinese by S. BEAL. With accompanying Narratives.

Post 8vo, pp. 368, cloth, 18s.

3. The HISTORY of INDIAN LITERATURE. By ALBRECHT WEBER. Translated from the German by JOHN MANN, Esq., M.A., and Dr. THEODOR ZACHARIAE, with the Author's sanction and assistance.

Post 8vo, pp. xii-198, cloth, 12s.

4. The MODERN LANGUAGES of the EAST INDIES. Accompanied by 2 Language Maps, Classified List of Languages and Dialects, and a List of Authorities for each Language. By ROBERT CUST.

* * * Other Volumes in preparation.

London: TRÜBNER & Co., Ludgate Hill.